



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades ★

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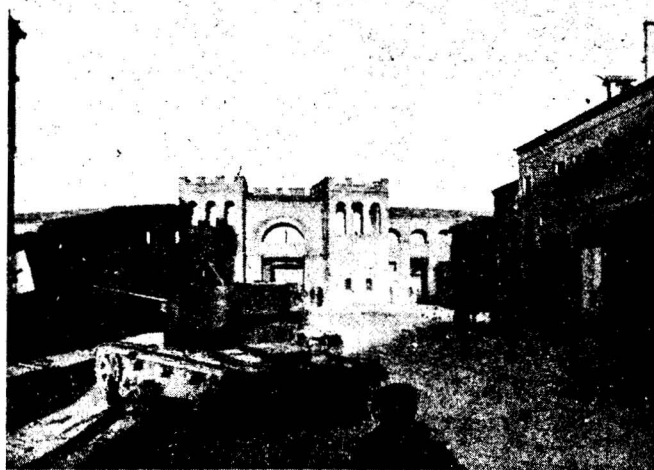
Madrid, January 3 - 1938

December 21

The fall of Teruel on the afternoon of December 21 was the climax of operations which the Republican Army had been carrying out for just a week. The Army of the Levante took the rebels completely by surprise when it launched an attack on the morning of December 15. Day by day, it executed the plans of the general staff like clockwork.

1st Ten hours

Most dramatic of all, perhaps, were the operations during the first day when, in the bare space of the available ten hours of daylight, the two columns entrusted with making the pincers movement simultaneously from the north-east and south-west, established contact with each other midway between Campillo and Concud. This movement, which enclosed the rebels in a circle of



T E R U E L

iron, practically sealed the fate of Teruel.

The planning of the operations was no less brilliant than the way in which they were carried out. Fortified by the most skillful German military engineers, Teruel was thought to be virtually impregnable. Yet the Republi-

can Army completed the whole series of operations with far fewer casualties than in any previous large-scale attack. The secret of this success was the fact that, with the exception of Concud, none of the strongly fortified rebel positions were attacked from the front. The Republican com-

mand singled out all the weak spots in the insurgent line of defense and drove wedges deep into the enemy's rear. Thus isolated, the strongholds of the enemy fell with little resistance when attacked from behind.

Working in this way during the seven days of the offensive, position after position fell into the hands of the Republicans, while the ring of insurgent territory around the city grew smaller and smaller. At last there remained nothing but Teruel itself and two heights, Santa Barbara and El Mansueto, immediately east of the city. The final operation consisted of cutting between Teruel and these positions. The city was entered simultaneously by Repu-



André Marty

Returns to Spain

André Marty, member of the French Chamber of Deputies and the man who was the driving force in organizing the International Brigades, has returned to Spain. His arrival in Madrid was made the occasion of a celebration by the Commissariat of the International Brigades, attended by leading figures of the army and civil government.

Pointing to the impregnability of Madrid and the victory at Teruel, Comrade Marty said the working class of the world feels justified in its unswerving faith in Spain. In France, particularly, the people are concentrating on increased aid in the anti-fascist struggle. "It shows itself in many ways", he said. "The port workers of Le Havre and Marseilles and the metal workers impose dues upon themselves daily to raise funds for various needs among the Spanish people." The same firm and growing support is found in all countries, he

explained. "The policy of non-intervention", Comrade Marty said, "becomes plainer every day to the large masses in the democratic nations as a policy of intervention in favor of Franco. Such a thing cannot long continue."

Comrade Marty showed that whenever things are bad for Franco somebody speaks of mediation and compromise. "But Teruel", he said, "shows that the will of the people of Spain is for final victory and the crushing out of fascism, nothing less."

Addresses were also delivered by General Cardenal, representing General Miaja who was ill; Gómez Egido, representing the Mayor of Madrid; Comrade Piñuela, new political commissar of the Center Army; Ossorio Tafall, commander of the André Marty Battalion of the 14th Brigade; and Pérez Vitoria, president of the Popular Front.



OUR TANKS enter Teruel.

blican columns from the north, northwest and south.

NEW ARMY STRONG

The capture of Teruel is the culminating point of the growth, or perhaps coming of age, of the Spanish People's Army. It is the logical result of experience gained in Casa de Campo, Segovia, Brunete and Belchite. In each of these campaigns the young Republican Army displayed more strength, more agility and greater cohesion than in the preceding one. In the counter-offensives at Guadalajara and Pozoblanco this army was already capable of routing the Italian troops. It has now completed its development and has proved itself equipped to gain all its objectives in a first-class battle carried direct to the enemy. A clear indication of this is that not a single non-Spaniard participated in Teruel and that not a single reserve was brought into action.

What increases the significance of the army's conduct is the fact that it operated under weather conditions that the word "awful" does not exaggerate. A heavy blanket of snow lay everywhere and at times the wind rose to a gale that swirled the snow so thickly visibility was impossible for a more than a few feet. The cold was so constant and intense that some men actually perished in it. Minister of Defense Prieto stated "I do not believe any other troops in the world could have marched under similar conditions"

The offensive was planned and directed by Colonel Sarabia who last autumn was placed in charge of the Republican Army on the Teruel front, and by General Rojo, Chief of the General Staff.

Both these men were members of the old Spanish Army and remained loyal to the Republic. As



NUNS and Civilians evacuated from Teruel.

soon as the Government received word of the capture of Teruel, it conferred on Sarabia the rank of General. Sarabia and Rojo, previously, are the only two men to have been promoted to generals during the present course of the war.

From a military point of view the holding of Teruel by the rebels had long been misconceived. If at first it was a dangerous salient which chance or, more accurately, the treachery of the civil guards placed in fascist hands at the very outset of the uprising, a salient which threatened to cut Loyalist communications along the Mediterranean coast, it later became a menace to the rebels themselves. This was borne out by their attempt last July to broaden the salient. It is now proved beyond all doubt by the success of this offensive.

For moral reasons, however, Franco had no other course than to maintain Teruel, whatever the cost in men and material. For, by talking of a slash through to the coast on that front, he had boosted the name of Teruel until it was on the lips of all, both in rebel territory and abroad. He simply could not, therefore, afford to withdraw his troops and leave Teruel to the Republicans. In the same way, once Teruel was surrounded and cut off by Government forces, Franco was compelled to sacrifice thousands of his best troops in a vain effort to relieve the beleaguered city. In one attack which the finest fascist troops delivered along the plain near Concud, they formed a perfect target for Loyalist artillery on the heights and were driven back in complete disorder after losing what is conservatively esti-

Besides the tremendous stimulating effect it will have on the Republican Army and rearguard, the capture of Teruel is of great strategic importance to the Government. It creates a new and shorter road to Madrid, and thus permits transfer of troops and material from the Aragon front to the Madrid front or vice versa much more rapidly. The distance from Alcañiz, the central point of communications for a large part of the Aragon front, to Madrid is 70 miles shorter via Teruel than via Valencia, and 85 miles shorter from Alcañiz to Guadalajara. It also constitutes the point of an axis along which new major offensives can be developed.

The capture of Teruel and its surrounding area leaves the Republic with a gain of hundreds of square miles of territory, rich in coal and iron so necessary for the expansion of the war industries, as well as with one of the best timber regions of Spain.

Numerous insurgent prisoners were captured the first day and more were taken each succeeding day and night. Many deserted to Loyalist lines, including whole companies in some instances. They have been conveyed by the hundreds from Teruel to Sagunto and Valencia. So rapid was the onslaught and operation against the city that barely a fascist soldier escaped to fight again another day. And the entire large store of arms and ammunition which the rebels had accumulated there is now in the hands of the Government.

There is no doubt that Franco must make ferocious efforts to retrieve his disaster. Come what may, the victory at Teruel has permanent significance.



STREET-FIGHTING in Teruel.

DELBOS COMPLETES TOUR OF EUROPEAN NATIONS

French Foreign Minister Finds that the Mass of People of Europe Prefer Democracy and Call for the Defeat of Fascism. Steps are Taken to Boycott Japanese-made Goods.

M. Delbos, French Foreign Minister, has been round Europe. His journey, rather than a triumphal progress, might be described as an inspection of the wreckage. In Poland, Rumania and Jugoslavia he had the opportunity of seeing the damage that France's friendships have suffered. All three countries have turned towards the probable aggressors and are seeking assurances from them in return, naturally, for concessions. The Four-Power Pact, the failure to take a firm stand when Hitler marched into the Rhineland, the sabotage of sanctions in the Abyssinian War, the policy of Non-Intervention, etc., all this diplomacy conducted in the name of peace is now threatening France with isolation and encirclement.

DEFENSE OF MINORITIES

It is not yet possible to judge whether Delbos' visit to Czechoslovakia has strengthened the resistance of that possible "Spain of tomorrow" against the threats of Hitler and his agents. It would be well if the rights of national minorities were always respected, but in any case Hitler's qualifications to be considered their champion are slight enough. There was once a great uproar about the German minority in Poland, until one fine day Poland's policy became pro-Nazi and the matter was closed. Nor do we hear much about the oppressed German minority in the Italian Tyrol; and if a Hitlerite took over the Government of Czechoslovakia and helped to open the way to Nazism's supremacy in Europe, then the pressing question of the German minority in Czechoslovakia would also be "closed".

NOT THE PEOPLE

M. Delbos might learn two lessons from his journey: the first—that wavering, compromise and retreat are not identical terms with peace and collective security; the second—that although the governments of Poland, Rumania and Jugoslavia have ceased to count the League of Nations and their agreements with France as the main factors in their foreign pol-

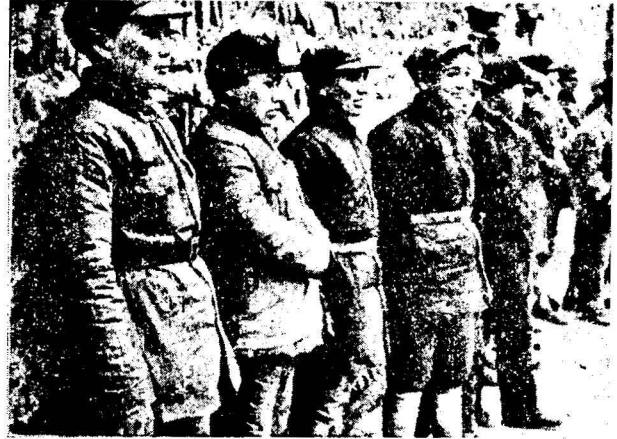
icy, nevertheless those Governments do not have the people behind them. The Polish people demands a reversal of the policy of the fascist ruling clique in Warsaw. In Rumania the pro-fascist policy of Carol and his Prime Minister, Tartaescu, has been defeated at the elections. It remains to be seen whether Carol can foist on the Rumanian people a new Hitlerite Government in which the dominant party only secured 10 % of the votes cast. In Jugoslavia Delbos was greeted with shouts of "Long live democratic France! Down with fascism!"

This is the force which can be mobilised behind the policy of peace, irrespective of the wishes of the Becks, the Carols, etc. It is a force which can still be irresistible if the democracies end the policy of capitulation and give more than kind words to collective security.

BOYCOTT PRACTICAL

World indignation against the Japanese crime in China is still increasing, and with it the possibilities of a large scale boycott of Japanese goods. The World Peace Assembly has taken the decision to organise a boycott beginning January 1.

The distribution of Japanese trade is such that an effective boycott is possible. *L'Humanité* has pointed out that Japanese troop movements are made with



CHINESE women-students in a military school. These women want military training, so that they too can pitch in to help their country to defeat the Japanese invaders.

American trucks. Japanese bullets are made with American lead. The petrol for Japan's planes comes from Dutch and American sources. The cotton which is essential for her war industry is provided by India and the United States. She obtains coal from Indo-China. Her nickel comes from Norway and Britain. She receives machine tools from France. According to figures published by the World Peace Assembly and based on League of Nations statistics and reports of the Tokio Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the United States, India, Great Britain and France take 38.9 % of Japanese exports and provide 47.6 % of her imports. 40.5 % of the total tonnage of ships passing through the Japanese customs consists of non-Japanese vessels, and about a third of them are British.

From these figures it is clear that a determined boycott by the democracies could force Japan to leave her prey and seek peace.

During five months' fighting Japan has achieved no decisive results. It is true that her forces have penetrated far into Chinese territory, but they have not been able to break a Chinese Army which is still in process of mobilisation and is growing stronger. Vast sums are being swallowed up in the war. A fierce partisan struggle is being waged in Manchuria. The unrest of the Japanese people is reflected in the mass arrests which are being carried out.

An indication of what could be achieved by firm action is provided by the sequel to the sinking of the "Panay". The United States now has an apology, the promise of an indemnity and the dismissal of a Japanese officer. This is a

distinct toning down in the "I care for nobody, no not I!" attitude adopted by Japan in the earlier stages. Whether or not the apology, the indemnity and the dismissal satisfy Washington, they will certainly not satisfy the people of America who are awakening to the danger of Japanese aggression in the Far East and for whom Roosevelt's Chicago speech, the call to world democracy to close the ranks, means more than just words.

TERUEL

The taking of Teruel is a smashing victory for the Republic on the Spanish Front and no less on the international front. The intense reactionary campaign advocating compromise or representing Franco as certain of success in a hypothetical forthcoming offensive, had not been without its effects in some democratic and working-class circles, where a mood of pessimism had set in. In Britain Major Attlee's confident statements on his return from Spain had already done much to dispel the gloom, and now his statements have been backed by the deeds of the Republican Army. On the other hand there has again been a big discrepancy between fascism's words and deeds this time a very welcome discrepancy.

No one imagines that with Teruel fascism in Spain is finished. We all know that there are difficult times and heavy battles ahead; but we know, too, that in Teruel coming events cast their shadows before.

A. N. L.



JAPANESE AVIATION swoops down on the "Panay", bombing it. The sinking of this American ship has caused great indignation in democratic countries of the world.



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organ of the international brigades

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VICTORY AT TERUEL

Honor and glory to our Spanish comrades of the Republican Army! They have proved at Teruel what we have always argued on their behalf; given time to organise and train themselves, they are second to none as front-line soldiers. At Teruel, taking the offensive in adverse climatic conditions and against strongly fortified posts, they routed Italian, German and Moroccan regulars. In the annals not only of Spanish but of European military history that is an achievement, for which it is hard to find a parallel.

Here then are some of the fruits of our coming to Spain! We held the lines for months on end, giving a breathing-space for the organisation of the Republican Army. How well that interval has been availed of, the victorious heroes of Teruel are witness!

But when our Spanish comrades can win victories without our aid it does not follow that our task in Spain is finished. On the other side of the enemy lines are Germans, Italians, Portuguese—international fascist invaders. So, on our side of the lines must remain the fighters of the international working-class.

For this is no national civil war in which we fight from abstract motives of idealism. This is an international war between fascism and democracy. Fascism has rallied all its available men and munitions; the working class, vanguard in defense of democracy, must do likewise.

While the war continues — and continue it must until Democracy triumphs — it is the duty of the international working-class to aid their gallant Spanish comrades. That duty we of the International Brigades have fulfilled in the past year. Let us fulfill it in ever-increasing measure in the year of victory now dawning.

FRIENDSHIP

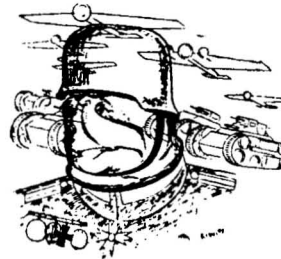
Last November, the Popular Front organised a week of homage to the International Brigades, commemorating the anniversary of the defense of Madrid. So warm was Spain's gratitude that the unexpected sum of 270,000 pesetas was subscribed. This money could be used for whatever the volunteers saw fit.

Now they have given their answer, characteristically and fittingly. For the Spanish soldiers throughout the entire Republican Army, 150,000 pesetas is presented for additional comforts to their winter welfare. In this way the International volunteers express their comradeship even to those Spanish brigades with whom we have not yet served side by side.

The rest of the money will be devoted by the International Brigades commissariat to cultural work in our own ranks, and to caring for the sons and daughters of Spanish members of our various units. Doing this work of peace before victory is finally ours is a signal to Spain and to the world that we are confident it will be ours.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Abd-el-Jalek Torres, Moroccan youth leader, officer in a Moorish brigade, supporter of Franco since the beginning, has been sentenced to jail... Latest figures on Italian trade balance have been juggled



around but cannot hide the enormous deficit of 3,350 million liras between imports and exports. The preceding year's deficit was only 572 million liras, which is also plenty... Hans Drick, Nazi "volunteer" and athlete, winner of the pentathlon at the Berlin Olympics, lost out the other day in a Madrid sector. He will be buried in Germany... Flash! Any day now the world will be astounded by the announcement of a Society of Nations to rival the well-known League of Nations which, it will be recalled, was supposed to perpetuate peace. Whether headquarters are to be at Nuremberg or Munich will be decided by tossing a Banco de Franco peseta... Just in case you're not quite sure, Japan has not yet declared war on China... Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck are banned from movie screens in Yugoslavia as being "anti-monarchist" and also "rebellious". Don't you think so?... General Ludendorff cashed in the other day. He invented totalitarian warfare, but died in bed. He opposed Hitler's intervention in Spain as being small fry. The old boy was always nice to us. When he helped Hindenburg crush the Czarist army, he practically started the October Revolution... The figures are official that the Moors

in Spain from the Anyera district of Morocco have had 368 dead and 830 wounded. The figures are official... A fascist soldier nabbed at Teruel cried, "Let me pray before you kill me." After he was given a chance to pray he was also given a meal, a trip to the rear, a pick and shovel and a job on the road. Was he also given a surprise?... "The long-awaited fascist offensive has begun", announced a political commissar to his men on an inactive front. "It has begun", he said, "and Teruel is ours!"... Time Magazine shows its impartiality by calling the rebels Rightists and us Leftists and tells this little tale: "The mere presence in the Balearics of Bruno Mussolini provoked so many bomb raids as Leftists tried to exterminate him, that Spanish Rightists were vastly relieved when Bomber Bruno flew back to Italy with part of his fascist squadron..." And this interesting item on the inevitable: "In



MOORS IN SPAIN

sunny Morocco, impatient wives and sweethearts of Moors fighting under Rightist Franco demonstrated at Tetuan, screaming "We want our men back", precipitated a bloody 24-hour riot put down by 130 executions..." Father Coughlin goes back on the air again. Did someone say offensive?... When Cardinal Verdier, archbishop of Paris, returned from Rome and announced the desire of the Catholic Church to collaborate with all men of good will, regardless of religious belief, the Nazi organ "Angriff" said, "The Vatican is entering common action with Moscow."



Ralph Fox and John Cornford

A year ago this week the famous No. 1 Company of British and Irish comrades went through their baptism of fire with the 14th Brigade on the Cordova front. For the International Volunteers this was undoubtedly the most difficult and most dangerous period of the war, a period when the fascists were advancing on all fronts, a period when the Loyalist forces were short of arms and had had no time for proper training.

Under these circumstances it is not surprising that in those days casualties were heavy. The first



RALPH FOX

Volunteers fought under almost unimaginably adverse conditions — conditions such as we shall never experience again in the course of the war.

Among those who died in this action there were two comrades whose deaths represented not only a great loss to the anti-fascist movement, but also a great loss to English letters. They were Ralph Fox and John Cornford.

WORLD WRITER

Ralph Fox was killed on the 3rd of January at the age of thirty-seven. He had already won a high place for himself among the leading writers of the post-war period. His influence among British intellectuals was far reaching and steadily growing, an influence directed towards drawing men of science and letters in ever closer contact with the proletarian movement.

In 1920 Ralph Fox joined the Friend's Famine Relief Expedition to the Samara region in South-East Russia to relieve the victims

of the famine which followed in the wake of the White Armies. He believed he saw in the new Russian civilisation, even in those early, troubled years, a solution to the world's political difficulties. His experiences there gave the material for his first book, "Children of the Steppes" in which he showed distinct literary ability.

Apart from his only novel "Storming Heaven", Ralph Fox concentrated all his attention on political writings. His study of "Lenin" is perhaps the best written in the English language. In addition he wrote "Class Struggles in Britain", "The Colonial Policy of British Imperialism", "France Faces the Future", and "Genghis Khan". Two books appeared posthumously, "The Novel and the People" in which he defined his view of the relation between art and politics, and "Portugal Now", a study of the conditions in Portugal at the time of the outbreak of the Spanish Rebellion.

Ralph Fox not only wrote politically, but also worked politically. As a Communist, he took his place in the workers organisations and he lived, worked and taught alongside working men. His presence in Spain was the proof of his readiness to combine practice with theory. His death was the proof that he was prepared not only to work, but to sacrifice eve-

rything for the anti-fascist struggle.

BRILLIANT POET

John Cornford, young poet and brilliant university student, met death on his twenty-first birth-



JOHN CORNFORD

day. He was the most prominent leader of the Student movement in England, and his efforts, more than those of any other single individual, helped forge unity of the Left wing student organisations.

His active life left him little time for writing, but what he did do in this respect showed considerable promise. Several of his poems, mostly of an anti-fascist character, have appeared in "Left

Review" in England and efforts are being made to collect all of his works in order to produce them in one volume.

Comrade Cornford was one of the very first International Volunteers to arrive in Spain in the late summer of 1936. He took part in the defence of Madrid and after a short return home to deal with some personal affairs he came back to take part in the action on the Cordova front where he met his death. His personality was tremendously vital, he was amazingly cool in the difficult situations during the actions in which he took part. He was a constant source of strength and inspiration to the group with which he fought. He was a great comrade and a brave soldier of Freedom.

SOME SOLDIERS ARE SO ROUGH

A raw young volunteer was receiving tuition in bomb throwing from an instructor. After everything had been carefully explained to him, he was given a live bomb and told to throw it.

He pulled out the pin and handed the bomb to his instructor, remarking:

"Well, and what do I do now?"

He was so deeply offended at the reply he received that he reported the instructor for using bad language.



GROUP OF COMRADES attached to the original English-Speaking Company of the 14th Brigade.

PEASANTS ESTABLISH NEW COLLECTIVE FARM AND POINT TO THE WAY OF SOCIAL ABUNDANCE

On July 21st, 1936, barely two days after the military uprising in Spain, the little village of Valdeganga de Cuenca received a visit from a delegation purporting to be from the capital of the province. The delegation introduced themselves to Juan Ramon Laparra, the Mayor of the village, and, after following the usual Spanish custom of talking about everything except the business they had in mind, finally announced that they had come to take

In addition the property includes one of the best known sanatoriums in the country, the mineral waters of which are famed for their cure of rheumatism. There is a large house, accommodating over 100 patients, a bath-house and a swimming pool. The sanatorium showed on the average an annual net profit of 20,000 pesetas.

Now the building has been given over to the British Medical Unit for the duration of the war for use as a convalescent home

small domestic animals) he happened to possess and provided that he became a member of one of the trade union organisations.

COLLECTIVE STARTED

The idea of collectivisation was beyond the comprehension of most of the inhabitants of Valdeganga, and even those who to some degree did understand what it involved, did not venture to throw in their lot with the collective farm. As a result of the meeting only three more families agreed to join in, who, together with the six families working the land previously, made a total of nine. Any member of the village has the right to join the collective at a later date, provided that he complies with the above mentioned conditions.

The nine families have now been working the land together since March. It has been a hard struggle, for 600 acres is a lot of land to till when one has no machines. The ploughing is done by a pair of oxen and most of the other work by mules. When I remarked on how well these animals looked, the Mayor, who is also secretary of the collective farm, said: "Yes, they look well and fat now. But they were very different when we took over. The former owners used to keep them half starved. And, indeed, it was

pesetas a year (\$15 or \$75 at the old rate of exchange). On this sum they had to support not only themselves, but also their famil-



A LITTLE refreshment after work.

ies. Many of them used to sleep in the stables with the mules, because they had no other accommodation."

GOOD HARVEST

The chief crop of the collective farm is corn, although it has many acres of potatoes and vineyard as well. There are also over 300 head of sheep and goats. In 1937 there was an abundant harvest, one of the best ever known in that part of Spain. And to cope with the situation the collective farm borrowed a reaping machine, for otherwise it would have been im-



SOWING the fields.

over the estate of the rich landowner which lay within the jurisdiction of the village and that henceforth this estate would be run by a workers' committee in Cuenca. Fortunately for Valdeganga its Mayor was a quick-witted man.

"That's all very well", he said, "you may be the bosses in Cuenca, but I am the boss in Valdeganga".

He immediately summoned the village council, who unanimously decided that no other authority than the village of Valdeganga was legally entitled to take over the estate in question. The delegation returned to Cuenca empty-handed and the estate became the property of the people of the village.

WAR HOSPITAL

The estate is, indeed, a rich one. It consists of some 600 acres of cultivated land, practically the whole of which can be irrigated, and over 5000 acres of pine woods.

for wounded from the fronts. The people of Valdeganga have thus foregone the profits of running it as a health resort and have made this their contribution to those of their fellow-countrymen who are fighting for the freedom of Spain.

The rest of the estate, however, remains in the hands of the village. During the latter part of 1936 it was run by a group of six families who had either worked on the estate in the time of the landlord or lived close by. It had no official status other than that it had been taken over by the village.

In March of 1937, however, when the policy of the Government regarding the development of collective farms had been made clear, the Mayor summoned together all the inhabitants of the village and announced to them that the estate was to be converted into a collective farm. Anyone who wanted had the right to join the collective, provided that he added to it whatever property (excluding house, furniture, kitchen garden and



PLOWING the furrows.

not only the animals they kept in this condition. It was the same with the farm laborers, too. These men had to work from dawn till dusk and they were paid 500

possible to get in all the crop. The machine, although very old-fashioned, served its purpose and worked ten times as quickly as the peasants harvesting with

sickles. The machine cut the cornfields in the floor of the valley, while on the hillsides, where the slope is steep, sickles were still in use. The peasants would sing at intervals during their work and their song would spread out across the valley to the hills beyond.

Valdeganga is a peaceful spot and there is little to interrupt the song of these happy peasants at work, happy, because for the first time in their hardworking lives, they are enjoying the fruits of their labor. Occasionally one hears the drone of a plane as it passes overhead. At such times the harvesters leave off their work and with their sickles raised in the air they wave to their heroic aviators, the story of whose bravery and skill has reached every nook and corner of Republican Spain. Twice a day refreshments



are taken out to the harvesters in the fields. Leaving their sickles embedded in a pile of sheaves, piled up on end so as to make a patch of shade in the parched cornfield, the harvesters gather in a circle for their meal. Out of the bread and the wine they make a soup, which quenches their thirst and nourishes them at the same time, while large pieces of meat are produced and eagerly devoured. Harvesting in Spain creates an appetite. Shortly after noon the harvesters return to the nearby house where their midday meal awaits them. Then, during the hottest hours of the day, they take their siesta, lying in the shade of the elms that line the front of the house. The day is a long one, from daybreak until sunset, and this rest at half-time is a necessity for all.

Harvesting by sickles is done in this collective farm by a group



of ten men. The first takes a row, while the one following behind takes the next row to the right and so forth. In this way ten men cut as many rows at once, which is about the equivalent of one small machine. Each harvester gathers his corn in armfuls as he goes along, leaving it in bundles to his left. These bundles are then collected and tied into sheaves by a group of men known as "binders".

PROFITS INVESTED

In war time, when the Government is sorely in need of all the wheat it can lay hands on, special measures have to be taken regarding the sale of the harvest. All the wheat in Republican Spain is bought up by the Government at a fixed price. Farmers, however, are entitled to keep enough wheat for their own needs and for the sowing of next year's crop.

In this collective farm there is no general distribution of profits at the end of the year. On the other hand, a fund is kept into which all the profits are paid and from which all workers over the age of fifteen receive 4 pesetas for each day they work. All general expenses of the farm, such as repairs and improvements, are also paid for out of this fund. Recently a new cart was bought, which cost 1,000 pesetas. Should the resources of the fund show any great increase, the wage of 4 pesetas a day would be raised accordingly.

But even the rate of 4 pesetas a day compares most favorably with the standard wage of 500 pesetas a year paid by the former landowners to the farm laborers. Counting an average of 300 days' work for each man, one

finds he earns 1,200 pesetas annually or more than double what he received formerly. And in addition to this sum in cash, he retains enough wheat, potatoes, meat, wine, etc., to keep himself and his family for the coming year, whereas previously he had to purchase all his food from the landowner.

BETTER LIFE

For the present only the large-scale farming has been collectivized, while such things as kitchen gardens, chickens, etc. have remained in private hands. Next season, however, collectivization will be complete. The women, for example, whose task it is to look after the minute plots of kitchen garden laid out somewhere in the neighborhood of each cottage, will next year all work together and cultivate one large plot, which can be irrigated. In this way production will be considerably increased.

The members of the Valdeganga collective farm are a hardworking but happy crowd of people. They are still poor, very poor if judged by British or American standards. But they are happy because they

know they are on their way to a richer and better life, because they are certain that henceforth they themselves, and not a rich landlord living in Madrid, will enjoy the profits accruing from what they produce by the sweat of their brow.

ARABS TRICKED BY ITALY FOR SERVICE IN SPAIN

The Gibraltar correspondent of the London "Daily Herald" reports the latest developments as to how Franco's "volunteers" offer their services. The article says:

"Mussolini has found a new way to send reinforcements to Franco without violating the letter of the non-intervention agreement. By proclaiming himself protector of Islam, the Italian dictator has sent thousands of native Arabs from Italy's North African colonies to Spain. The trick is as follows. The Italian authorities extend an invitation to Arabs of Tripoli and Lybia to board ships which, they say, will go to Morocco; there they will be able to proceed to make a pilgrimage to the sanctuary of Muley Idris in French Morocco.

"But the pilgrims never get to the holy city of Fez, for when they reach Melilla, in Spanish Morocco, they are signed up in the Foreign Legion by fascist recruiting officers, who tempt them with the pay of five pesetas a day.

"It is calculated that in the last fortnight, seven to eight thousand Arabs have been enlisted in this manner. A secret air service has been organized to speed up transportation between Tripoli and Melilla, and between Melilla and Cadiz. This service operates daily."

GREETINGS TO PEOPLE'S ARMY

The Minister of National Defense sends a message to the Republican Army:

"In the dawning of the year 1938, I salute with the greatest warmth the Armies of land, sea and air, who are so heroically serving the people, of whom they are the innermost part. I express my profound desire for the triumph of our cause, the justice of which proclaims itself to the entire world, and I cherish the tenderest remembrance of our comrades who have succumbed in the combat. Soldiers, aviators and sailors: Salud and Victory!"

CULTURE AT THE MILL

Where the Brigade last rested, Headquarters were established in the private rooms of a riverside grainmill. The mill was under the control of the U. G. T. The men who worked there spoke of their old employer with a casual tolerance. He chose to go, it was his own affair. They might find him a job if he cared to come back.

The machine rooms were spotlessly clean. Machinery was of the latest type, and wherever possible was enclosed in polished wood. The power station generated enough current from the flow of the river to supply several surrounding villages with light. You could walk into any factory in an industrially developed city in Britain or America and see nothing that worked more smoothly or with less dust and noise.

The man who formerly owned all this was making enough money out of it to cover extensive and elaborate improvements to his private quarters. He left before they were completed. Headquarters staff ate their meals in his big living-room. He had let himself go on this room; it was lavishly baronial, but its baronialism was childish and not like the bored, cynical taste of the seeded aristocracy.

When a rich man does this sort of thing in Britain or the States, he generally makes a round of the antique-dealer's show-rooms and fills his rooms with products of the past. He may understand what he is doing, or he may not. Sometimes he orders a "period room", and commissions a decorator to fix it up.

In Spain not even the amateur baronialist needs to fall back upon past ages. Owing to the late industrial development of the country many feudal traditions long since dead in Britain overlap here into the present day, among



them the traditions of craftsmanship. In the rural districts of Spain, and even in the cities, craftsmen are still working as their predecessors worked several centuries back. When the baro-



THE FIFTEENTH BRIGADE boys getting ready to move. Sketch drawn by Comrade Henryk.

nialist calls in his craftsmen, he is as likely to get good work as bad. It is difficult to give the ex-mill-owner credit for knowing the difference between them, because the work he accepted is of uneven merit and the whole effect intolerably exaggerated.

Every visible wooden surface in this room has been heavily carved. Some of the carving is in itself very fine. Fantastic animals and foliage cover the beams of the ceiling, picked out here and there with colour. The garish vigour of these inventions recalls Gothic carvings four or five centuries old. Not only has the tradition remained, but the life is still in it.

Up in the village the peasants furnish their cottages with better taste than the rich man, though they are probably unaware of it. They plan more simply, but the same traditions are at their disposal. Here and in all the villages of Spain, pottery and woodwork in daily use is of the richest beauty. In England, such stuff exists in the homes not of the peasantry, but of a few people who have caught the enthu-

siasm of William Morris, and not all of them share his understanding of social developments and their effect upon culture.

When the Spanish Civil War has been won and the People's Front Government continues under peace-time conditions its present energetic policy of cultural development, it will have these living traditions to call upon. Under the right control the cultural legacy of feudalism can be saved from the slaughter which has nearly or entirely extinguished it in the industrially advanced countries.

Rising capitalism looks after the material conveniences of life, invents machinery and, up to a point, encourages science, but it does little for culture. In so far as the human need for ornament can be put to profit, to that extent capitalism will be interested in it. In the effort to extend its profits, it is concerned, as usual, with speed and quantity. Art is put on a mass-production basis. The craftsman's enthusiasm disappears. Ornament is created without interest or love. Deterioration is inevitable.

There has been more bad art put into the world since the beginning of the Industrial Age than in any previous period of social development. The high standard of feudal art, however, was unstable because it was largely unconscious. It was not necessary then to emphasise the differences between good art and bad, since there was no great danger of the bad crowding out the good. Nobody could have imagined then how far the standard was going to descend.

Now, however, it will be impossible not to be aware of the differences, for industrialism has established a wide margin of comparison, and the object lesson will remain in front of us as long as we need it. The task will be to make the craftsman more conscious of what he is doing, and so to put him in a position where he can not only continue his tradition but develop it, and relate it to the modern life around him. We shall see changes for the better.

A nation fully conscious of the value of culture is well armed against reaction. The people have in their hands the material for the intellectual and emotional development that is the real stuff of civilisation. While reaction is still strong and has arms of its own, the world has to fight for the elementary right to become civilised, with weapons that are forced upon it. Even so, and even under the restrictions of war, the growth of culture in Republican Spain continues. The efforts of the Government are justified by their effect on the spirit of the fighting forces. Some of us who come from countries industrially more advanced than Spain envy the Spanish people their future. With such a fine and wide-spread heritage of culture, they will prove to have a firmer foundation than ourselves when the peace-time process of civilisation begins in its full intensity.

The Brigade's mill offered a picture in miniature of Spain's transition. Old culture stood side by side with modern machinery. Signs of bad influences were there but their source was gone. The Spanish people were at work, controlling their own industry; and housed in the same building were Internationals of the army that is defending all that is best in Spain, for the sake of all that is best in the world. M. T.

PROF. HALDANE BACK IN SPAIN. WILL MAKE A SPECIAL STUDY OF BOMB-PROOF SHELTERS

J. B. S. Haldane, Science Professor at University College, London, and one of the world's outstanding authorities on gas defense, has returned to Spain. He has been here before, advising the Republican Government on precautions against gas attacks both at the front and in the rear. This time, he says, his mission is to learn from Spain the methods of protecting crowded cities aga-



PROFESSOR HALDANE

inst air raids. The elaborate measures being taken by the British Government for such contingencies have been severely criticized on the grounds that maximum attention is devoted to wealthy residential areas.

Professor Haldane is going to examine the bomb-proof concrete shelters in Madrid, Valencia, Barcelona and elsewhere which have been built for all the people exposed to danger from the air. "If I find that this is true", he said emphatically, "I am going to raise hell when I come back. What Spain can do in war time, London, Manchester, Glasgow and our other big cities can do in peace time."

LOT TO LEARN

Continuing the same theme, Professor Haldane declared his conviction that the people of Spain are doing the greatest work of the world today by beating back the fascist onslaught. "We have a lot to learn from Spain," he said. "We can learn

how a people unites to defend its rights. We can learn how an army is organized under working-class leaders. We can learn that measures of defense for women and children which the British Government says are hopelessly expensive are quite practicable in a land where lives count for more than money."

With the utmost sharpness Professor Haldane denounced the attitude and policy of the British Government toward Loyalist Spain. He spoke clearly and bitterly: "The British Government has deliberately and repeatedly broken international law in favor of fascism. And our ruling class is delighted if the fascists can also kill a few British boys who are willing to risk their lives for democracy. Yes, after all," he observed, "they might be a nuisance to their betters when they came home."

To Professor Haldane the victory of the all-Spanish troops at Teruel is especially significant for having been achieved without any assistance from the International Brigades, but he expresses keen satisfaction with their constant readiness for action. "After spending several days with the Anglo-American Brigade, Professor Haldane, who was a captain in the famous Black Watch Regiment during the World War, said of his countrymen in Spain, "The British Battalion is incomparably more efficient than a year ago. It has good rifles and machine guns, and good discipline, though not yet perfect. On the other hand, its very high morale and its experience of war make it more than the equal of any British regular army battalion."

Stamp as Tribute to U. S. A.

A Government decree last week authorized a special series of postal stamps commemorating the cordial relations that exist between the peoples of Spain and the United States.

ELEGY FOR OUR DEAD

There is a place where, wisdom won, right recorded,
men move beautifully, striding across fields
whose wheat, wind-marcelled, wanders unguarded
in unprotected places; where earth, revived, folds
all growing things closely to itself: the groves
of bursting olives, the vineyards ripe and heavy with
glowing grapes, the oranges like million suns; and graves
where lie, nurturing all these fields, my friends in death.

With them, deep in coolness, are memories of France and
the exact fields of Belgium: midnight marches in snows--
the single-file caravan high in the Pyrenees: the land
of Spain unfolded before them, dazzling the young Balboas.
This earth is enriched with Atlantic salt, spraying
the live, squinting eyelids, even now, of companions--
with towns of America, towers and mills, sun playing
always, in stone streets, wide fields--all men's dominions.

Honor in this lies: that theirs is no special
strange plot of alien earth. Men of all hands here
lie side by side, at peace now after the crucial
torture of combat, bullet and bayonet gone, fear
conquered forever. Yes, knowing it well, they were willing
despite it to clothe their vision with flesh. And their rewards,
not sought for self, live in new faces, smiling,
remembering what they did here. Deeds were their final words.

E. B.

Madrid, September 1937.

A CHINESE SOLDIER

My Chinese friend and I were sitting and smiling at each other in the culture room of the hospital when the radio began broadcasting in English. I listened for a moment and then turned to him. "Nanking", I said, "has fallen".

He nodded courteously, as always, but his pleasant face did not change expression. He continued to smile, his nearly mahogany skin creasing around his narrow little friendly eyes.

I felt almost hurt at his indifference. Could he remain unconcerned at the fall of his country's capital to the murderous Japanese invaders? "Is it nothing?" I asked. We speak to each other in Spanish which neither of us know very well. Perhaps that was the reason I grasped his answer slowly.

He said, "The floods cover many fields, but the farmers continue to plant seeds and tend the trees".

After a while he rose and limped away. He got a bullet in the leg at Cuesta de la Reina some weeks ago with the French 14th

Brigade, and just recently began to walk. He has to use a cane. As his stocky figure began ascending the stairs to the room in which he sleeps, a little Spanish nurse flew to help him. His smile was the same as ever, but he refused. For perhaps a full minute it was a duel between two kinds of graciousness. Finally, reluctantly, she permitted him to go.

He started up the stairs, the cane in his right hand, the banister in his left. He went very slowly. But he never faltered. The friendly little altercation with the nurse had aroused the attention of all in the room. Everybody had raised his head from book or domino game. There were Germans, Poles, Americans, Frenchmen, Roumanians, Swedes and Spaniards. They did not take their eyes from him.

And thus, with all the world watching to see if he could do it, a wounded Chinese comrade slowly climbed the stairs to the very top.

M. M.

From the Madrid F. U. E. to All Students In the International Brigades

The University and Student Federation (F. U. E.) of Madrid is anxious to achieve closer comradeship with the students fighting in the International Brigades, and appeals to them to get in touch as soon as possible with the headquarters of the Madrid F. U. E., Calle de San Bernardino, 14.

The Madrid students are proud to regard their international comrades as honorary members of the F. U. E. H. They are deeply moved by the sacrifice and heroism of these comrades in the war in Spain, and they want to express their gratitude in some way. They want to establish close and friendly relations with them and show them that they are living in a brother country which regards them as its finest sons.

For this reason the Madrid F. U. E. wishes to get in touch with these comrades so as to offer them our assistance and do everything in our power to help them.

At the Madrid Students' Club, the students of the International Brigades who are on leave in our capital will shortly have the opportunity to devote their leisure moments to educational and cultural work which will bring the Spanish and international students closer and closer together.

We wish to establish relationships of a permanent character not only with the foreign comrades who are fighting in Spain but also with the students and the student organizations of all countries, so as to build up, day by day, the mass student movement of unity against fascism and in defence of peace, liberty and culture.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE F. U. E.
OF MADRID

December 23, 1937.

Italians Still Meet With Armed Hostility From Ethiopians

Mussolini seeks new victims for his aggressions, but he cannot seem to make a real job of the conquests he so triumphantly proclaims to Italy. Ethiopia, for example, is far from being as fully subjugated as the Italian war machine, rolling over unarmed native troops, expected it would be by now. Reports filter through the rigorous censorship and all bring the same news. Italian difficulties in Ethiopia are steadily increasing.

The London "Times" is the reliable source indicating Mussolini's latest worries in the conquered territory. Essential supplies are quite scarce, and gasoline and other imported raw materials are subjected to the strictest rationing. Viceroy Graziani was forced to issue a decree to that effect. Cars and trucks may be used only in cases of absolute necessity.

MERCHANTS UNEASY

Other symptoms of alarm to fascist headquarters are the unwillingness of home firms to send further exports to dealers in Ethiopia until existing debts are paid, and the discontent among

Italian businessmen generally over the lack of opportunity and actual loss of money already suffered in Ethiopian trade. Rules and regulations are not solving the problem.

They surely cannot alleviate the mounting unrest among the Italian soldiers on duty in Ethiopia. The correspondent says, "Deserters frequently surrender at the French Somaliland frontiers. About a fortnight ago a group of ten soldiers gave themselves up to the French authorities, giving as explanation the terrible hardships they had to suffer and harsh treatment by their superiors."

Meanwhile guerilla warfare goes on unceasingly. Night attacks on truck convoys are common and Italians are round dead every day. A series of mass executions of natives has not had the result of breaking their spirit. Although Addis Ababa and the larger cities are considered safe, Italian officials and merchants will not go elsewhere without heavily armed guards.

HE LEARNED HIS LESSON

Orders against looting are very strict. Military gear thrown away by the evacuating fascists and trifles left about the streets are legitimate capture. The dangers of taking such stuff are not disciplinary, but can be equally sharp.

A comrade from New Zealand had an experience in Villanueva de la Cañada which will discourage him for a long time from appropriating things that once belonged to fascists, when next he finds himself in a captured village.

In Villanueva he picked up a good fascist coat. Though he tore off the falangist badge, it still looked like what it was. He found a mauser gun, for which he discarded his own. He put a few fascist papers in his pocket as keepsakes, also a rubber stamp.

Further on, being separated from his unit, he encountered some Spanish comrades from another Brigade. At such times, everybody is on the alert.

"What's this gun?" said one.

A fascist would probably have given the answer he gave. They



LOYAL SPANISH WOMEN in a war factory making shells.

looked at his coat. Its origin was obvious. They searched his pockets and found the papers and the stamp.

A crowd collected.

"Fascist spy!" shouted somebody.

"Stand aside," cried a man with a revolver. "I'll put him under arrest."

The New Zealander heard the

click of a gun being cocked. To his dying day he will never forget that sound.

Had not a Portuguese comrade rushed up and identified him, his dying day would have overtaken him then and there.

In the future, he will be more careful how he snaps up the unconsidered trifles that fascists have left behind.

U. S. MEDICAL BUREAU TO AID CHINA

The American Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy will also aid China. Dr. Walter B. Cannon, noted physiologist of Harvard University and national chairman of the Medical Bureau, has offered the services of more than a hundred leading members of the medical profession to organizations arranging help for the Chinese people. Liberty-loving Americans, Dr. Cannon said, still believe in democracy and abhor fascism wherever it appears.

Dr. Cannon's statement said, "In view of the fact that our limited and overworked forces are laboring day and night to render adequate medical aid to Spain, we offer as a concrete expression of our sympathy, to place at the disposal of all individuals and groups who wish to render medical aid to China, the technical facilities we have developed in our past year's experience in helping Loyalist Spain."

NEWS IN BRIEF

HAMILTON, ONTARIO.—Major Ludwig Renn, commander of the 11th Brigade, now on leave of absence for propaganda purposes, addressed a large audience here, and showed that most newspapers falsify reports on the true situation in Spain. The People's Army, he asserted, is prepared for anything and may even take the offensive before the enemy start theirs. This speech was made two weeks before Teruel forced all the newspapers of the world to wake up to the truth of the internationally famous anti-fascist author's statements.

BARCELONA.—At a meeting of Socialist Deputies in the Spanish Cortes it was agreed to propose to the Second International that an international assembly of Socialist parliamentarians be held in a city in Spain. The meeting was attended by Indalecio Prieto, Largo Caballero, Alvarez del Vayo and Ramón Lamóneda, of the Committee for the Unification of the Socialist and Communist Parties.



— A delegation of Madrid journalists attending the Exposition of Madrid, showing how the city was attacked and is being defended, received a gift for General Miaja, consisting of a Mauser-type rifle, light machine-gun and a Schneider-type rifle. All of these weapons were manufactured in Catalonia.

— The National Plenum of the Syndicalist Party has unanimously elected Marín Civera as chairman of its national executive Committee. He succeeds Angel Pestaña, leader of the Syndicalist Party for several years, who died recently of long-standing illness. The plenum decided to erect a mausoleum in his memory.

NEW YORK CITY.—Taxi-drivers throughout the city are on strike to force the companies to comply with union contracts drawn up last June. The number of men involved is 4,300 and is increasing steadily as the strike progresses.

NEW YORK.—Mayor La Guardia is definitely a member of the American Labor Party according to the election law of New York State, since he enrolled under its emblem during registration week last October. His wife did likewise.

The six councilmen elected by the American Labor Party decided, at their first caucus, to concentrate on a fight against high food prices and rents, and will demand a yardstick power plant, municipal ownership of transit and a city-owned milk distributing system. The Labor Party delegation consists of B. Charney Vladeck, Manhattan, who was named chairman, Louis Hollander and Andrew R. Armstrong, Brooklyn, Michael J. Quill and Salvatore Ninfo, the Bronx, and Charles Belous, Queens.

Peter M. Cacchione, Communist candidate who lost out by only 245 votes in Brooklyn, is driving powerfully for a recount which may still elect him by revealing strongly suspected vote-manipulations on the part of Tammany Hall.

— Without changing its program, the American League Against War and Fascism has enlarged its popular appeal by altering its name to the American League For Peace and Democracy.

MOSCOW.—A trade treaty has been signed between the Soviet Union and Lithuania, establishing mutual import and export quotas for 1938.

— Final returns on the elections in the U. S. S. R. have put 1,114 members into the Supreme Soviet. Of these, many are women. Total votes cast were 90,319,346, showing that 96.5 % of citizens eligible to vote actually used the ballot. It was the largest election the world ever saw.

YPRES, BELGIUM.—Setting a new world's record for its class, a Belgian biplane sped 2000 kilometers in 8 hours and 8 seconds. The average velocity was just a shade less than 250 kilometers an hour.

PARIS.—Minister of Foreign Affairs Delbos rendered a report to the French Senate on his conversations in London and the re-



WASHING-UP during off-moments behind the lines.

sults of his recent trip through Central Europe. The report has not yet been made public.

LONDON.—Another British delegation will visit Loyalist Spain. They will come after the New Year holidays. The group will consist of about twenty members, representing various political opinions, including laborites, liberals, members of the House of Lords and perhaps conservatives as well.

— The "Times" publishes the statement forced from Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden as a reply to a parliamentary inquiry concerning the damage inflicted on British vessels in Spanish waters. According to these figures, twenty-five ships have been attacked in the period from the beginning of the war until August 1937. Eight of them were Royal Navy, while the others belonged to merchant marine. Damage was caused, the statement admits, by bombs, cannon-fire, torpedoes from submarines, aerial machine-gunning, and floating mines, but "in some cases it has not been possible to determine with certainty who was responsible for the incidents."

— The "Daily Herald" announces that the British Army will shortly begin using a new type of rifle. It will be much heavier than the present one and will have double the caliber. It will use bullets that are not only tank-piercing but explosive as well. Prep-

arations are also being made for a new and more effective model of anti-tank gun.

VATICAN CITY.—Almost the whole of the Pope's Christmas message, usually devoted to an annual survey of the world scene, is concerned with Nazi Germany's policy on religion. "We have to pronounce solemnly and concretely", the message stated, "that in Germany there exists a true system of religious persecution, despite all affirmations to the contrary". Making the demand that "Germany become again the Germany that we used to love", the message says further "So grave is the religious persecution that we find it carried out with measures including brutality, violence, falsity, fraud and lies".

MEXICO CITY.—The Confederation of Mexican Workers is summoning a continental congress of democratic forces to initiate common international action against the spread of fascism on the American continents. Among the political organizations who will attend are the Uruguay Socialist Party, the Argentine Socialist Party, the Argentine Radical Party, the Argentine Socialist Labor Party, all the parties of the Popular Front of Chile, all the parties supporting the present government of Colombia, the A. P. R. A. Party of Peru, and the Democratic and Socialist Parties of Cuba and Central America.

Australian C. P. Greets Volunteers, Nurses in Spain

"The Australian labor movement and all friends and supporters of democracy and peace are filled with pride and joy at the heroic endeavors of the sons and daughters of the Australian and New Zealand toiling people now assisting the valorous Spanish people defend its liberty against the fascist hordes of Hitler, Mussolini and Franco."

With these words the Communist Party of Australia sends a letter of greetings to the Australian nurses and fighters with the International Brigades. Grieving for Jack Barry and E. Dickenson, who were killed in action, the letter says, "Workers will always cherish their names and those with them, the living symbols of international fraternity."

The letter points out that thousands of Australian people are responding to the appeals of Comrade Lowson, recently returned from service in Spain, and that the organization of material aid to the anti-fascist struggle is steadily reaching higher levels. The letter concludes:

"All this guarantees that the final victory will rest with the cause served so nobly by the sons and daughters of Australian democracy, the truest representatives of the great tradition of Australian freedom, won in the struggle against convictism, at the Eureka Stockade, in the anti-conscription victories, in the struggle of the labor movement. The victory will be ours, the victory of peace, of democracy, of internationalism, over the enemies of humanity, civilization and culture—Hitler, Mussolini and Franco."

Poumists Kicked Out of Valencia Council

The two P. O. U. M. members of the Valencia City Council have been deposed by order of the Civil Governor of Valencia. This action follows the withdrawal of several other party groups from the Council as a protest against the presence of the P. O. U. M.

The P. O. U. M. is accused by the Civil Governor of attacking the Government as well as the other political and trade-union organisations and of carrying out a policy of disruption.



Italian "Volunteers" Get Poor Treatment

The treatment received by Mussolini's "volunteers" when they return disabled is the subject of a report from reliable sources. Hundreds of Italians, wounded in Spain, have been landing for the past few weeks at Naples, Gaeta and Spezia. Their families are not notified, and the soldiers are placed in special hospitals from which all visitors are excluded. They are isolated to prevent any news of their activities or present condition becoming known to the public.

When discharged from the hospital these soldiers make contact with their families for the first time and then discover that the fascist authorities have not kept the promise to support their dependents, a promise given to all these "volunteers".

One of these Italian soldiers, badly wounded in the Asturias battles, found his family close to starvation. He applied to the government for pay which he had

not received in Spain, and also demanded the bonus guaranteed at the time he enlisted. After many delays his claim was at last refused on the ground that no appropriation had yet been made for such purposes.

Harry Pollitt Pays Christmas Visit

Welcome visitor to Spain this Christmastide was Harry Pollitt, British working-class leader. Harry's visits—this is his third in 1937—are welcome not only because of his cheery personality and the personal interest he takes in every comrade but also because it is now an established custom that when Harry comes he literally brings good cheer. This time it took the shape of a Christmas present and a personal greeting to every man. Not content with visiting the XV Brigade, Harry toured every hospital and even found time to pay the Anglo-American delegation at Madrid a visit. His coming here, as everywhere else, was the occasion of an impromptu and enjoyable celebration.

London Labor Rallies To Aid Spain. Attlee Speaks

Ten thousand people packed the London Albert Hall and an overflow had to be brought to Hammersmith Town Hall when Major Attlee and Labour Party colleagues held a meeting in support of the democratic Government of Spain on Dec. 19. The meeting was a warning to the British Government, declared Chairman George Dallas. Dealing with the reactionary proposal to grant belligerent rights to Franco, Sir Stafford Cripps, M. P., emphasised "they shall not get away with it". Major Attlee, detailing his experiences in Spain, pointed out that those who argued religion is at stake are "using the religious issue for their own material interests."

An appeal for 1,000 pounds for Spain realised subscriptions totalling 3,300 pounds. Mr. Lloyd George subscribed 10 pounds.

Irish Labor Opposes De Valera Constitution

IRELAND.—Mr. de Valera's new Constitution which came into force recently replaces but does not materially alter Mr. Cosgrave's Constitution of 1923. Highlights of the new Constitution are: substitution of the name Eire (Ireland) for the name Irish Free State; a claim (which will not be enforced) of jurisdiction over the

partitioned North-East; provision for the Uachtarán (President) of Eire. In effect, the Constitution declares—but will not enforce—a free united Ireland. It is opposed by Republican and Labour Parties.

In Parliament last week, Labour leaders bitterly assailed Mr. de Valera's virtual recognition of the fascist conquest of Ethiopia. Occasion was the announcement that the Irish Free State was accrediting a Minister to "the King of Italy and Emperor of Abyssinia." Mr. de Valera, backed by his political opponents of the Cosgrave party, pleaded that he was not recognising the annexation of Ethiopia, but merely "recognising the name taken by the Italian sovereign!"



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II N.° 2

Madrid, January 13 - 1938

LISTER, PEOPLE'S SOLDIER, RAISED TO RANK OF LIEUT.-COL. BY NEW GOVERNMENT DECREE



LISTER

A Division Commander of the 5th Army Corps of the People's Army.

Enrique Lister, commander of the famous division that bears his name, has been promoted from the rank of major to that of lieutenant-colonel. His elevation is the first to take place under the new decree of the Ministry of Defense, which changes the rule that men who were not professional soldiers before the war may not reach higher rank than major. This rule, enacted by the previous Largo Caballero government, could not attempt to limit the degree of responsibility that able members of the People's Army might assume. It simply restricted their official status. Thus it happens that men of the people have risen to the command of brigades and even of divisions without having the title corresponding to their posts.

Certain leaders, tried and tested under the fire of many battles, have seen their names become bywords for heroism and skill. Their

men will follow them to hell and the people of Spain idolize them. Among them are Valentin Gonzales, a peasant now famous as "El Campesino", Modesto, a carpenter, Duran, a musician, and Lister, a stone-cutter. But as they were not professionally trained soldiers, they have remained as majors. That formality, however, has never handicapped their efforts.

Lister's promotion will undoubtedly be followed by others, for the decree states "It is necessary and just that each soldier of the new Army should carry in his knapsack the baton of a field marshal." The division commanded by Lister occupied one of the most crucial positions at Teruel. During the fascist counter-offensive the Lister division withstood a series of terrific attacks against their lines without losing an inch. This achievement perhaps accounts for his selection as the first lieutenant-colonel to emerge from the people's ranks.

LED 5th REGIMENT

All political quarters are applauding this act of recognition of one of the very great commanders of the People's Army. It is only a proper official reward to a man, a worker, a leader, who in 1932 was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment as a dangerous labor agitator; who in July 1936 was in the crowd that stormed Montaña Barracks in Madrid and prevented the treacherous garrison from handing over the city to the fascist generals; who, a few days later, was up in the Guadarrama Mountains as a soldier of the unforgettable Fifth

Regiment, which fought not only the enemy troops but also against chaos, and prevailed over both; who eventually became the elected commander-in-chief of the Fifth Regiment, remaining in that difficult post until a short time before the regiment voted itself out of existence as a political entity and gave the original example to other independent militia units of single-minded loyalty to the People's Front Government alone.

THRU MANY CAMPAIGNS

The Government chose Enrique Lister to organize the first brigade of the People's Army. He took

the volunteers, untrained men mostly but lion-hearted anti-fascists like himself, and what he did with them is known to two armies—ours, who admire the Listers, and the fascists, who fear them. Into the most vital campaigns and through the most decisive battles—Madrid, Carabanchel, Jarama, Guadalajara, Toledo, Valdemoros, Brunete, Belchite and now Teruel—he has led the flower of Spain's heroic manhood. The whole world knows what they have achieved. And Lister's name has become a symbol of flaming personal courage, of brilliant leadership, and of profound popular faith.

PLEDGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE SOLDIER

(This pledge was taken by the 15th Brigade Training Camp soldiers on January 1, 1938.)

We promise, on this New Year's day, to renew our Pledge: With all our hearts, we shall fight until we win our Victory over fascism.

We shall carry out our duties in the Republican Army of the Spanish Republic, and carry forward the victory of Teruel to its final conclusion, and if necessary give our lives for this cause.

We pledge to fight the enemy at the front and defeat the enemy in the rear.

We pledge to fight and carry on until the heart of fascism has been destroyed throughout all the world.

We pledge to the working class of all the world that we will carry high their banner.

We thank the Spanish people for this opportunity to join them in their struggle.

We pledge our Victory as vengeance for our fallen comrades.

TERUEL RENEWS ANCIENT ROLE IN WAR FOR FREEDOM



OUR SOLDIERS walking through one of the streets in Teruel after we had taken it.

In connection with the liberation of Teruel by the Republican forces, it is interesting to note that this is not the first time that Teruel has played a role in Spanish wars for freedom. The Carlists, one of the fascist organizations among the rebels, were among those who attempted to defend the city during the present war. But during the Carlist war that broke out during the 1840's, they were the ones who besieged the city, which was in the hands of the liberals. On July 2, General Ramon Maria Narvaez, a commander of the liberals, left Valencia with 3600 soldiers and 300 cavalymen to come to the aid of the besieged city.

Twenty-six hundred reactionary Carlists, under the leadership of Enna, were laying siege to Teruel. There were very few defenders in the city at that time; and the place was defended by two things principally. The first was its geographical position surround-

ded as it was, and still is, by natural fortresses. And the second factor making for its defense was the inefficiency, the apathy, and the lack of enthusiasm on the part of Enna, the Carlists, leader, a man who stood in fear of every obstacle and difficulty that confronted him.

Another of the Carlist reactionary leaders who was attacking Teruel together with Enna, looked with distaste at the dangerous inaction into which the latter had sunk. He therefore convinced Enna that, instead of waiting to be attacked by the liberal commander, Narvaez, the Carlists should march toward the oncoming column of liberals and attack them. It was the plan of Inestal, which was the name of the second Carlist leader, to have his troops put aside everything but arms and ammunition, and then attempt a surprise attack against the liberals, while they were asleep.

In the early hours of July 3rd,

Inestal set out to carry through his surprise attack. Six hours later he heard that Enna's men, who were to have fought at his side, were deserting en masse. A return march to put an end to this cowardice was now necessary. This delay smashed his plans, and his own troops became demoralized by contact with Enna's men. By the time the liberals reached Teruel, they were able to march into it without a fight for the discouraged Carlists had raised their siege and left before their enemies could get close enough to attack.

Narvaez, the liberal, followed up his advantage at once. He sent his cavalry after the fleeing Carlists. The cavalry was unable to overtake the fugitive reactionaries. But Narvaez himself conti-



SAGUNTO HIGHWAY along which the civilians were evacuated.

ruel salient and is of great strategic importance to the fascists, who still control it.

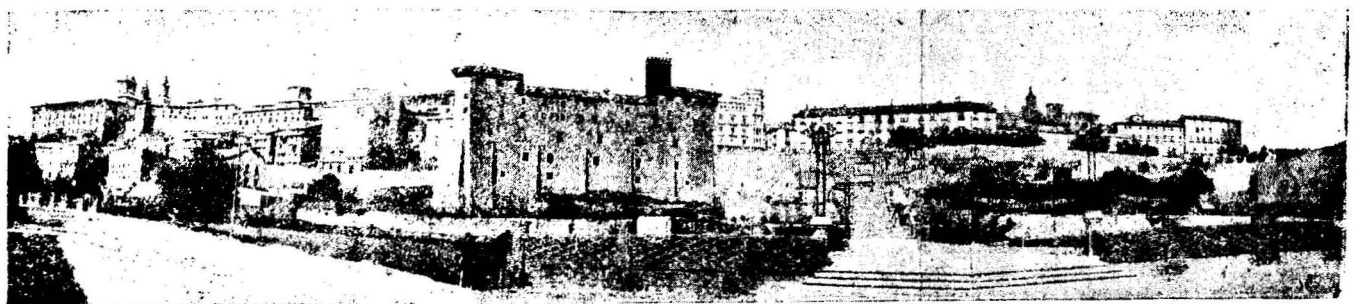
Both Teruel and Calatayud were of great importance in the Carlist war of 1843. They are both of great importance in the present war of independence. In 1843, the liberals defended Teruel and were not defeated. In 1937 the fascists were the ones who



ONE of the little towns that fell with Teruel.

nued to press north with his men until he reached the city of Calatayud. The name of this city should be borne in mind by all. It stands at the mouth of the Te-

defended it. But despite their immense fortifications, and their excellent war material, they were unable to hold it against the forces of Spanish freedom.



Left: Seminary.

Center: Civil Guard Barracks.

Right: Civil Government building.

View of Teruel — picture taken from the south-western part of the captured city.

IF FRANCO RESORTS TO POISON GAS—

A year ago it was thought likely that the fascists would use gas against the loyal Spanish army. They have not done so yet, but they very well may. So every comrade should know the simple essentials of gas warfare.

The enemy will probably use one of three kinds of substance, a choking gas, a blistering vapor or a smoke causing sneezing. All these are commonly called "gas". It is very unlikely that they will use other gases, for example those which cause tears but not choking, for they are not humanitarians. Nor will they use hydrogen cyanide, for some choking gases are ten or twenty times as poisonous.

MUSTARD GAS

It is often thought that terrible new gases have been invented. I do not believe this. Mustard gas, the worst so far produced, was invented fifty years ago. There are many more poisonous substances, for example diphtheria toxin. But their molecules are too big to allow them to vaporize, and substances with small molecules have been pretty well studied without finding any very bad new poisons. Finally, if Hitler has a new and very deadly poison (which I don't believe), he will keep it for use on Paris, Moscow or London rather than try it in Spain where a victory would not win the world for fascism.

Choking gases, such as phosgene and tri-chlor-methyl-chloroformate, attack the lungs and eyes at once. They are dangerous but not treacherous, except that after a fit of violent coughing a man may think he has recovered, and then go down with lung inflammation. Your mask gives absolutely complete protection.

Blistering gases, of which mustard gas is the worst, are treacherous. Mustard gas is the vapor of an oily liquid, which attacks your eyes, lungs and skin, in that order. But the eyes are only affected two hours after exposure to the vapor, and the lungs and skin later. Your mask protects your eyes and lungs completely, your skin not at all.

You may get blistered even when wearing a mask, but the blisters are not fatal, nor do they leave permanent scars. Of 170,000 British casualties from mustard gas in the last war, only one in 40 died, and less than one in 100 was invalided for more than six months. The deaths were all due

First Article of Two Telling What Gas Is, The Way to Combat It and Why Fascists Hesitate to Begin.—By a World Famous British Biologist

PROF.

J. B. S. HALDANE

to not putting on the masks in time. Four of the 170,000 were blinded.

Sneezing is caused by arsenical smokes, often after quite a long delay. They also cause violent pains in the head for a few hours, but never kill. Your mask may not give absolutely complete protection in very dense smoke. If a little gets through, don't take the mask off. You will be worse off without it.

Mustard gas and Lewisite, which has similar blistering properties, and a smell like geraniums, are called persistent, because when they have been scattered over ground in a liquid form this ground is contaminated for

aeroplanes. Dichlor-ethyl-sulphide was sprayed from aeroplanes in Abyssinia.

They can be used for three distinct purposes. Cloud and shell attacks were used to break the line, trench mortar and bomb attacks to cause casualties. Ground was sprayed with mustard gas in order to deny it to both sides. For example, during big attacks the Germans shelled with mustard gas at each side of the sector where they were trying to break through, to prevent British counter-attacks. On the actual front of attack they used high explosive shells, and non-persistent gas and smoke.

GAS ATTACK UNLIKELY

Why hasn't Franco used gas in Spain? Some of you may think that he is such a perfect gentleman that he would not like to make even the dogs and mules cough, let alone you. There are other rather better reasons. The terrain is unsuitable, especially for cloud attacks. During most of the year the ground is so hot that vertical air currents would lift gas off the ground and scatter it in the air. So if there is a gas attack I expect it will be made before the end of March. Possibly a night attack might be practical later.

But the main reason is something

else. Suppose I am shelling a kilometre of front; if I put over 1000 high explosive shells I expect to kill 10 times as many people as if I had put over 100. With 1000 gas shells I expect to kill 20 or 50 as many as with 100. Gases are not poisonous until they reach a certain concentration. Above this concentration, the more gas, the shorter time of exposure needed to disable or kill. So a few gas shells at rare intervals will probably do no harm at all



a time varying from about two days in hot weather to two weeks in cold weather. Other types of gas are called non-persistent, because they clear away in a few minutes if there is a wind or in a few hours in calm weather.

METHODS USED

In the war of 1914-1918 and later wars these gases were used in five different ways. They were first of all released in great clouds from cylinders in the trenches. Such methods are quite impossible in hilly country, though they were effective on the flat plains of Belgium and Russia. They were also fired in drums from trench mortars of a special type with a range up to about 700 metres. They were released from shells. They were dropped in bombs from



GAS MASKS captured from the enemy at Carabanchel.



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ALBACETE

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MADRID

JANUARY 13 - 1938

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS

The month of January is an especially significant month for Americans in Spain. It was on January 2, 1937—a year ago—that the first large group of American volunteers set foot on Spanish soil. Reaching Albacete four days later, they were officially incorporated into the International Brigades on January 6th. During the entire month there continued to arrive those additional Americans—among them were Canadians and Cubans—who, together with our Irish comrades, made up the original Lincoln Battalion which moved up to the Jarama lines in the middle of February.

These men were the pioneers, the first of the more than 3,000 American volunteers who followed them into Spain, forming the Washington Battalion (merged after the Brunete offensive with the Lincolnners) and a good part of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion. These were, and are, the men who now fight shoulder to shoulder with the British and Spanish comrades in our own brigade: the 15th International Brigade.

In marking this first anniversary, we salute our predecessors: the people of Spain whose bravery held the fascists at bay in those early, critical days of July and August, 1936; the German and French comrades, who were the first international volunteers in Spain; and the British comrades of our own brigade, whose arrival in Spain preceded ours by three months.

And, in noting this anniversary, we look forward with confidence to that celebration which will be the greatest and most satisfying of all: the final victory of the Spanish people over fascism. On that day, as now, we will be here to take part in the victory, as we do now, in the struggle.

FASCIST DECEPTION

The accident that befell a group of British and American reporters on Franco's side of the lines at Teruel is a new variation on the old theme of fascist unscrupulousness. In a war like this, where so many innocent lives have already been destroyed, a few more deaths do not call for sentiment. Regrettable as the case may be, it was still a risk that war correspondents must run in the course of duty.

The importance of the matter lies in its revelation of how brutally unconcerned fascism is to all human lives. The significance of the incident consists in its complete exposure of Franco's eternal readiness to lie and deceive and befuddle the world. The tragedy of these journalists offers another proof of fascism's roughshod criminality. Let us hope that the inevitable publicity on the case will teach many more people outside of Spain the fundamental lesson we have known for a long time—that fascism will kill until it is killed.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Fascism in the raw! To conceal the Teruel disaster from people in the rebel zone, the heavy trainloads of wounded from that front are brought to the distant rear. When the trains arrive, the alarm sirens are sounded to warn of Loyalist air raids. Spectators naturally scatter, and then the wounded are removed in trucks... Here's an interesting example of fascist morale (after Teruel). Nine Spaniards escaped from Algeciras (a fascist stronghold) to Gibraltar (British territory) by swimming across the bay, one of the roughest stretches of water in Europe. It took them six hours, but they thought getting away was worth the trouble... The British Ambassador in China was badly wounded when a Japanese plane swooped low and shot a burst of bullets into his official car traveling on a highway. That was some months ago and he has finally left the hospital. But a new ambassador is taking his place. Quite right! Antagonizing Tokio the way he did — the very idea!...

Poland has raised voting age to 24 (total population 32,000,000). The Soviet Union sets suffrage at 18 (total population 165,000,000)... It happened in Quinto and Belchite too. Fascist prisoners taken at Teruel had salvo-conductoes for leave to Madrid. Wouldn't they have been disappointed to find that stores and cafes in that particular city do not accept German Reichsmarks as currency?... A certain New York clubman pays seven and a half bucks for a pair of his French lisle socks. Isn't that Japanese silk boycott becoming irksome?... Vargas calls his recently established fascist government in Brazil "authoritative democracy". Add that to your political

education... In the North a campaign is starting to stamp out the Catalanian and Basque tongues as being mere "barbarian dialects". Certainly, Italian and German are much more classical languages, not to speak of Moorish... Thousands of sheep were taken at Teruel, including quite a few two-legged ones... The British Government is building a very special bomb-proof shelter for the King. It's really an investment, though. Inaugurations are much more expensive... Phalangists and reque-



tes are quarreling more and more, and postal service has had to be suspended between various points in Francoland. Now that's really too bad. When they start opening each other's mail, it's serious... There's one consolation in winter warfare. The sun doesn't go to work and make you wonder which smells worse — a dead mule or a dead fascist... Here's the way it goes: Japan recognized the Franco government, so Franco recognized Manchukuo. Thereupon Manchukuo exercised its sovereign rights as a nation and recognized Franco too... You won't believe it, but Brazil has banned the "Tarzan" series for Communist tendencies... This one is a little easier to figure out. When Vittorio Mussolini's book "Bombs Over Abyssinia" was translated into German, a couple of Nazi reviewers called it "a charming little book of adventure"... In Czechoslovakia fourteen members of the fascist party were convicted in court on charges of homosexuality. Two were sentenced, but the rest are still around. Whoops!... Captured Basque priests are sent to the Madrid front and forced to dig trenches. That's the new fascist version of defending God and country... "Japan is paying the price which the leadership of the Asiatic races demands", says a Tokio spokesman. According to statistics, Japan has 300,000 prostitutes... The Duke of Alba, Franco's representative in London, points out that when Napoleon invaded Spain, Great Britain sent men and munitions to drive him out, and that Italy and Germany today merely want to do the same to Stalin. But how about the Sultan of Morocco? What the hell does he want?...



JAPAN, the partner of German fascism.

NEWS IN BRIEF

LONDON.—Mr. Morrison, Labor M. P., made a speech predicting that elections will be held this year in Great Britain which will surely result in changing the foreign policy of the present cabinet.

HANKOW.—In order to devote himself exclusively to his duties as Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Armies, Chiang-Kai-Shek has resigned the presidency of the Executive Council, being succeeded by Kung, Minister of the Treasury.

This move by Chiang-Kai-Shek is considered a reinforced answer to Japan's offer of peace, made through the German ambassador. The offer was unconditionally rejected.

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO.—The boycott against Japan was started with a spectacular demonstration in this town, which is the pottery capital of America. Virtually the whole population of 25,000 have joined the boycott. William Green, president of the A. F. of L., personally marched in the parade.

LONDON.—The Dean of Canterbury sent General Miaja a telegram saying: "Your magnificent fight for democracy and the epic events at Teruel strengthen our faith in your final triumph over fascism. We are working here and shall continue to work without rest for democracy, justice and world peace."

MOSCOW.—The most complete atlas of the world is finished. After working for several years scientific authors have now issued the first volume of a projected set of three. The others will appear shortly. The first one contains more than 350 maps so presented that they indicate the physical structure of the seas and oceans, the astronomical system, the distribution of mineral and oil deposits, as well as the climatic conditions of the various regions all over the world.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congressman Usher Burdick, North Dakota Republican, has introduced a resolution demanding retrial for Tom Mooney in California. He has sent an appeal to both the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. for support of the measure, pointing out the unconstitutionality of California's legislation on the case



TOM MOONEY

and the complete discrediting of the original evidence upon which Mooney was "framed" twenty-one years ago.

BARCELONA.—A committee of women of Catalonia visited the Ambassador of the United States and delivered to him a message addressed to President Roosevelt, expressing thanks for his assertion of international rights and obligations in his recent speech.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, made a speech violently attacking the "sixty families" of the United States who possess practically one-fourth of the national wealth. He said these economic masters are using the present depression to dictate conditions which are "absolutely unacceptable in a democracy". Appealing to the American people to support Roosevelt

in the fight against big business, Ickes declared, "This fight will be a war to the death until either these sixty families or 130 million Americans prevail. The United States must not fall into the chaos of fascist nations; it must be a country with freedom of opportunity, a country of free men and not of slaves".

MOSCOW.—With the creation of a People's Commissariat of Marine, the Soviet Union is coming nearer to the point of adequate naval strength. Progress has been rapid and characteristic since the World War and the Revolution when the country was left with practically no fleet at all. Today strategic naval bases are established, and it is believed that the Soviet Union has the largest number of submarines of any navy. A large fleet of light cruisers performed complex maneuvers recently, while several ships of the line are under construction in American shipyards



MADRID.—The representative of the Chilean Embassy has delivered to the Spanish Government the sum of 72,000 pesetas donated by people of his country for the welfare of orphaned children. Additional winter clothing and toys will be supplied to the children through this money.

GENEVA.—The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress has petitioned the British and French Governments in protest at the new measures in Roumania curtailing the civic and economic rights of Jews. The petition cites the Treaty of Minorities of December 9, 1919, guaranteed by the League of Nations, which imposes the duty on countries belonging to the Council of the League of protecting Jews and other races under the circumstances described.

PARIS.—Niceto Alcalá Zamora, semi-reactionary president of Spain from 1931 to 1936, who has been in voluntary exile since the People's Front won power, has now published an article saying the Spanish people will never permit a fascist dictatorship to rule their country. "It is very easy to predict", he writes, "that such a regime will be an incessant series of abuses, crimes and rebellions, as well as failures and weaknesses in its duties."

YUGO-SLAVIA.—The "News-Review" of London, commenting on the recent visit of French Foreign Minister Delbos to Belgrade, gives the following illuminating item:

"By the time the car containing the Minister and Premier Stoyadinovitch reached the Foreign Office the crowds were howling Long live Democracy and the Front Populaire! Down with fascism and the Dictatorship of Stoyadinovitch!" Thirty thousand Belgrade citizens swarmed the streets singing "The Marseillaise" which has long been banned in Yugoslavia as being too revolutionary.



ARTILLERY PIECE in action.

Five Who Want A Crown...

For decades, the Spanish people struggled to rid themselves of the crown and all that it represented. They established a republic in 1931, and thought that they had already achieved democracy and the opportunity to develop what Bertrand Russel calls the "good life". But Gil Robles and Alejandro Lerroux maneuvered their way into the leadership of the republic, and within the framework of that republic that the people had already struggled so hard to establish, they set up a monarchy without a king. A republic that was in reality a monarchy, such was the situation in which the Spanish masses found themselves until the reactionaries were thrown out of power.

The struggle went on. In 1934 the miners of Asturias were butchered and a wave of repression ran through the country. But the deeply rooted demand for a true democracy would not die. 1936, and the Popular Front came into power. At last, after centuries of oppression, the good life was within reach of the people of this country. The people's government set to work. Land for the peasants, work for the workers, a chance given to the intellectuals to build a culture, and schools in which the culture that was being built could be transmitted to the school children.

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

But in 1934, the Spanish fascists and the reactionary generals had already laid plans to throw the country into a civil war if they found themselves unable to hold power in any other way. The fascist leaders visited Hitler and Mussolini. They were promised aid. The stage was set. In July, 1936, the army rebellion broke out. There were two months of civil war. Then the German and Italian soldiers came pouring in. Bit by bit the Spanish fascists were pushed into subordinate positions. Their role in the struggle became a secondary one. The civil war became a war of independence, and the Spanish people settled down for a long struggle to defend its young democracy, to hold its independence, and to secure the social gains that it had already made.

The Germans, the Italians, and the Spanish fascists knew what

they wanted: colonies, mines, large land holdings, rights and privileges, the opportunity to rule and exploit and oppress an entire people, and then to use that people as a base to attack still more countries. The war started because the selfish interests, the men who belong to the past wanted to continue their hold on the country. Spain was to continue to belong to the past, so that these men could continue to own Spain.

But one of the ways in which Spain could be kept in the past was by keeping it a monarchy. The crown of Spain must be kept on the head of a king. But what king? That was the question. The crown of Spain is already covered with dust. But there are five men who want that crown. And because they want it, the blood of human beings is flowing on all the fronts of Spain. It is a doubtful sort of crown. It will never rest easy on the head of any king in Spain. But five men want it.

ALFONSO XIII

Who are these men? Alfonso of Bourbon, who once ruled in Spain under the title of Alfonso XIII, is the first of them. When he fled across the Span-

ish border on April 14, 1931, the people let him go. They made no effort to execute him, to imprison him, or to make him pay in any way for the crimes that he had committed. This was a democracy that they had established, and how could a people that had just ushered in a reign of peace and freedom execute or imprison a king? But once he was safe abroad, Alfonso of Bourbon set to work to regain his crown. He plotted, he entered into conspiracies with the nobility. In 1921, his desire to hold the Arabs of North Africa in slavery had led him to send his army against them, and on one single day, due to the criminal negligence of generals, ten thousand Spanish soldiers, torn from field and store and workshop, were slaughtered by the Rifis of Abd el Krim.

Long before that day, Alfonso had already received the contemptuous nickname of the African. Good, he was the African, and he wanted a crown, and the Moors of North Africa showed that they could slaughter Spaniards. So he lent his aid to the plan of Franco and Sanjurjo whereby the Mohammedans of Morocco were to defend a Christianity that would be topped by Alfonso the African and his unsteady crown.

HOUSE OF HAPSBURG

Otto of Hapsburg. That is the name and title of the second of those five who so eagerly desire the crown of Spain. His mother was the wife of Carl, last emperor of the Austro-Hungarian empire. When that empire crashed under the thrust of a nation tired of four years of war and centuries of misrule, Otto was taken into exile by his mother Zita. But the woman was determined that her son should have a crown. She has involved herself in plots that cover the face of Europe, Austria and Hungary were still the center of her desires and hopes for her son. But Spain had given her son refuge during the years of wandering. The throne of Austria had once been linked with that of Spain. And the Spanish crown was vacant, though only because it had been thrown into the gutter.

SEÑORITOS

The Count of Covadonga. Eldest son of Alfonso and Victoria Eugenia. His childhood spent in the midst of palace intrigues. His body torn and wracked by ill health that has brought him to death's door a dozen times. His young manhood spent among the señoritos, the young gentlemen's sons, who had built up a whole cult of luxury and idleness that had won them all the undying hatred of the Spanish people. So far did the señoritos arouse the disgust of the masses that the lower classes developed a code of ethics that was a point-counterpoint sort of thing. It consisted of this principle: don't do anything that the señoritos do. Keep a wall between yourself and the señorito. This attitude on the part of the people contained many elements that will seem peculiar to a man who has lived among traditions of freedom, unless he bears in mind the suffering and the tyranny in which the Spanish masses have lived.

I recall an incident that took place in a small village in the region of La Mancha, a region associated with the Don Quixote of Cervantes. I was escorting a young lady to the home of a friend. We reached a part of the street where the ground had been torn up, and almost instinctively I reached out to take the young woman by



FORMER KING ALFONSO kissing the hand of an archbishop.



BECAUSE SPAIN won't allow itself to be ruled by kings, their fascist supporters do this. What was once a worker's dwelling is now a heap of ruins as a result of a fascist air bombardment.

the arm and help her across the rough spot. This young woman, it should be pointed out, was the daughter of a peasant; and when I reached out to take her by the arm, she moved away from me in an almost frightened manner.

Later I spoke of the incident to her father, and he explained the girl's reaction to me. The señoritos, he said, during the days when they walked through the streets as though they owned the world, were in the habit of taking a young woman by the arm as they escorted her. And what the señorito did, the people were against. No habit, no custom, no gesture, that had been part of the code of ethics of the young gentlemen's-son, was tolerated by the people in the village.

The Count of Covadonga, therefore, the sick young man who represents in the eyes of the Spanish masses the very essence of *señorismo*, the cult of the young gentleman-son, with its dissipation, its idleness, and its luxury, is the third who stretches out his hand for the crown of Spain.

But there is a fourth aspirant for the Spanish throne. Javier Alfonso, the "legitimate". His supporters are the Carlists, who demand the restoration of the Spanish monarchy under the slogan of "God, Fatherland and King". But though the Carlists want a king in Spain again, they want neither Alfonso, nor the Count of Covadonga, nor anyone but a descendant of the house of Don Carlos, of the house of Austria. That is why they call themselves Carlists. That is why they are supporters of Javier or Alfonso, whom they call the "legitimate". Javier Alfonso is an old man now. He is feeble and he is weak. Should he come to the throne of Spain, the royal coronation would soon be followed by a royal funeral. But that is not the point. Behind Javier Alfonso, behind the Carlists, there stand reactionary elements whose interests would be secure if the throne was set up again in Spain and the crown of Spain were to rest, no matter how briefly or unsteadily, on the doddering head of Javier Alfonso, descendant of Don Carlos, the "legitimate" of the house of Austria.

THE DUKE

The fifth and last of the hopeful five is a son of Amadeo de Savoy, the Duke of Aosta. Although he has an excellent reputation as a good father to his children, the duke is not exactly developed when it comes to the intricacies of politics. Personally he might even prefer to remain a father to his children, rather than enter the lists as an aspirant to the position of father to his people. But the unscrupulous fascist leaders who surround him, or who are in contact with

him, have led him to believe that the people of the country await him as a harbinger of peace and prosperity. And he believes them. The monarchists who are leading the old duke by the nose, hope to seat him on the throne, to surround him with men of their own ilk, and then use him as the innocent cat's paw which will rake their chestnuts out of the fire.

Seventeen months of a cruel war against the invaders are already past. And while the people of Spain continue to fight bitterly for its liberty and independence, over there, in the fascist camp, aristocrats who belong to the past, and priests who have brought the money changers into the temple, and Carlists, and reactionaries of the Renovación Española, the monarchist party, continue to weave their schemes of restoration around Alfonso the

African, around his sick son the Count of Covadonga, around the old and half-dead descendant of Carlos of the house of Austria, around Otto, the last of the house of Hapsburg, and around the Duke of Aosta, who turns from his family board to look with puzzled glance into the scheming eyes of the conspirators who would use him as their tool.

These are five who want the crown of Spain. But the crown of Spain no longer exists except as a museum relic. These are five who would sit on the throne of Spain. But the throne of Spain, rickety and uncertain on its shaky legs for so many years, has crashed into the dust at the strong shove of the millions of Spaniards whose hands are reaching out, not for crowns and power over their fellow men, but toward a new life in democracy.

D. M. M.

FASCIST GENERAL LETS IT RIP

Queipo de Llano may be an ass, but nobody needs to take his broadcasts seriously, not even his own soldiers. When a fascist general starts playing the same monkey tricks in an official military bulletin, he seems to be asking for trouble. He got it this time. His Sometime Excellency General Muñoz Castellanos has been fired. No wonder. His report on Teruel was a work of genius, but genius knows no rules.

General Castellanos, officer commanding the fascists at Teruel until we took it, put up a prodigious cock and bull story. He dated it December 22. On that day we were in the city and had all of it except two blocks, which were surrounded. Heaven knows what led the General to do it. Perhaps he thought he could take back the city before the truth did its damaging work, or perhaps he was indulging in a lovely daydream. Whatever it was, he let himself go. Copies of his bulletin are in our hands.

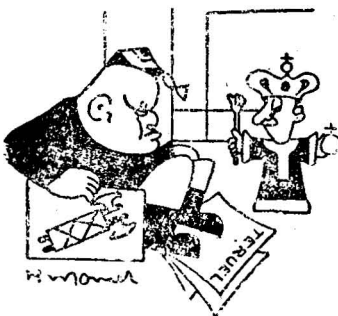
He reports that his troops were advancing victoriously to the south of Teruel, which would mean that the Republican forces were being driven further from the city, if it meant anything at all. A few paragraphs later, he states that attempts made by the "Reds" to storm the town had been repulsed. Somewhere between these two statements some valuable kilometres got lost. This little conundrum must have caused a few headaches behind the fascist lines. Gentlemen have their worries.



In the course of the operations, he claimed, his army had wiped out ten International Brigades. The General must have been making whoopee. He was seeing exactly double. Worse than that, he was seeing what wasn't there. With the same bottle he succeeded in annihilating the Listers, the Campesinos and another Spanish Brigade. What he chose to call the Lincoln Brigade had been so heavily reduced that it had been withdrawn from the line and would cease to function as a unit. According to military practice such a step is only taken when a unit has lost 90 % of its strength.

As a result of all this, Franco apologised over the radio to the Great American Nation. In blue-blooded circles this is called old-world courtesy. It's up to the Lincolns to return the compliment, and say they're sorry they couldn't come along, but they had a date with a few turkeys, pigs, etc. and were totally unable to get away.

CONSOLATION



Well, anyway, Hitler hasn't got it!

AN AMERICAN DENTIST IN SPAIN



DR. JACK KLEIN

No other International volunteer in Spain has been in so unique a position as Dr. Jack Klein, the American dentist with a roving commission. Ever-busy, ever-smiling, he has covered all the fronts, travelling over 10,000 miles in his dental truck, and treated about 3,000 persons, including members of all the International Brigades and nearly all of their battalions. He has also penetrated to the little pueblos off the main highways to give many a native Spaniard a first introduction to a common hygienic practice of better-developed countries.

Dr. Klein believes his traveling dental office represents the first time in warfare that such a flexible method has been used to keep troops actually at the front in good shape. At the time he began his work, the 15th Brigade had already been in the line for about three months. It was the idea of Dr. Edward Barsky, original chief of the American Medical Service, to have the men's teeth checked without further delay after such a long time. Since the vast majority of tooth ailments are caused by neglect, treating them would prevent many of the serious cases that had already occurred. The equipment and the science were there, but the soldiers could not come to it. It would therefore go to them.

An American ambulance was too low, so it was exchanged for a British one with a body high enough for Dr. Klein to stand up in. Sanitary cabinets were built tight against the wall of the truck inside. The chair was installed, anchored into a platform, specially devised on the floor of the truck. A flight of steps was tack-

ked on leading from the ground outside. And he was ready for business. First call to the Lincoln Battalion and its neighbors.

BEGINS AT JARAMA

One case on his very first day of work, May 5, is an example of the strange experiences in store for the former Brooklyn practitioner. Twenty patients were waiting at the Jarama cook-house when he drew up. Gradually they were disposed of, but one comrade refused to mount the chair, declining his turn time and again because there was no "gas". Once in a while he would take a gulp of anis from the canteen he had brought along. He could not be convinced that the anesthetic administered by injection could deaden pain. Dr. Klein had actually begun to clean up the "office" when the reluctant man finally decided to take a chance without "gas". He turned out to be Englishman who had never been to a dentist in his life. Eight rotten upper teeth, and roots were removed in that single sitting. So satisfied was he with the painlessness of the operation that he insisted on having the lower teeth also treated before departing.

He was persuaded to come back another time, and thereafter he returned whenever possible. In the next few weeks Dr. Klein extracted all of the poor teeth and subjected the gums to a hardening process as preparation to fitting a plate into the mouth. He had actually taken measurements. Dr. Klein still keeps them as a memory of a comrade who had become one of his best friends. For on July 8, in the surging advance of the 15th Brigade at Brunete, he fell as adjutant of the British Battalion. He was Lieutenant Charles Goodfellow, of Glasgow, who had come to Spain in December 1936.

IMPROVEMENTS

The American dentist found that although there were many difficulties only one could not be overcome. That was the constant presence of flies. It was only the coming of cool weather at the end of October that drove the plague away. The other problems were soon solved through experience, ingenuity, inspiration or resignation. Thus he became used to

working without a perfectly adjustable dental chair; with a jerky engine operated by foot as a substitute for a smooth and silent-turning electric unit for drilling; with doubly extra effort to sterilize his instruments on an open truck into which the breeze blew germ-laden dust. Thus he improved his services until he was able not only to extract teeth, but also to treat infected jaws and gums and to make silver amalgam restorations.

The strangest hardship of all was one that eventually became quite a pleasure. That was the business of operating in public. Ten years of practice in a quiet, sheltered, completely private office had bred habits which took Dr. Klein a considerable effort to overcome. But almost as if he had actor's blood in his veins, he adapted himself to standing on what is practically a stage before an audience intently scrutinizing his every move. He has even devised a few tricks for effect, such as making extractions ahead of other work in order to impress the waiting (and watching) group of patients with the before-and-after contrast.

PEASANTS GRATEFUL

Together with the assistant he found and trained here, George Waters, 20 year old San Francisco Negro, Dr. Klein has driven and drilled his way through the fronts of Jarama, Cordoba and Aragon; the training camps, the rest homes, the convalescent hospitals. His greatest thrills, however, have come from the plain and simple dwellers of the villages. He finds it easy to understand but hard to accept the homage a peasant pays him for surcease from pain. He has treated very many of these people. Almost all have pressed some gift



ENGINEERS working on our trenches in the Aragon.

upon him which he with equal insistence has refused. His Spanish is good enough to enable him to explain that this is merely an example of what their People's Front Government wants to institute fully and universally after victory; that for such and similar reasons the International Brigades have come to help, both at the front and in the rear.

In the last few campaigns Dr. Klein has accompanied the 15th Brigade to the actual fronts. Right in the line of fire he has taken his place, supervising the stretcher-bearers, assisting the battalion doctors. He has readily adapted his professional skill and experience in jaw surgery to wounds and other frontline needs.

After a campaign he takes his truck out again and resumes his busy dental routine. His office hours are as long as daylight lasts.

M. M.

FAMILY EVACUATED LONG AGO

The Jews were expelled from Spain by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella almost 450 years ago, and it is said that Christopher Columbus was thus forced into exile and a career of exploration. Today a significant percentage of Jews from all countries are members of the International Brigades. It strikes an interesting historical balance, but the point is mentioned only in order to illuminate a little tale.

An American volunteer went to a hotel while on leave in Madrid. The law requires all hotel guests to comply with two conditions before being registered. The first one was very easy for him. Was he in war service? Yes, of course, his appearance showed he belonged to a battalion. So did his papers.

The hotel clerk was strict, and also unimaginative. He asked the second question. Was the applicant's family evacuated from Madrid? The American, who happened to be of Jewish extraction, was puzzled. It took him a few moments to get the idea. But when he did, inspiration came with it.

He leaned across the desk and looked the clerk straight in the eye. "Yes", he said. "My family was evacuated all right. Don't you remember? Back in 1492!"

A Review of the Present World Scene

The two fronts of war and peace are more sharply aligned than ever. There is talk of Germany's "last reasonable proposal":

1. Incorporation of Austria.
2. The transformation of Czechoslovakia into a Federal State.
3. The return of Germany's former colonies.

Italy's withdrawal from the League of Nations, where she was working in the interests of war as vigorously as the Soviet Union for peace, is being taken to mean that in her prospective adventures she does not feel she can be encumbered even with the modest burden of her present collective commitments, which she carried through the Ethiopian War and which have not prevented her from sending whole divisions to Spain.

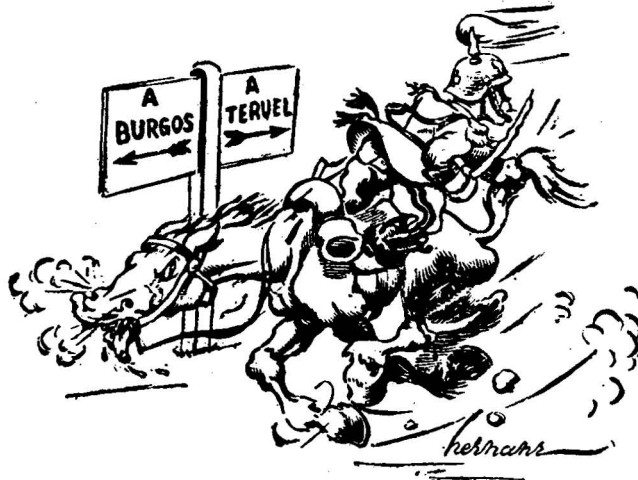
Because of the policy of the handshake for the robber and the cold shoulder for the victim, the organisation of peace presents many more difficulties than it did twelve months ago, but that does not mean that it is impossible.

In Spain, China and Czechoslovakia the people are asking: "When, if ever, will the democracies act? Where are the French People's Front, the British Labor movement?" Too many have already sunk into a fatalist acceptance of the inevitability of war.

But as the searchlights of world opinion are more and more sharply focussed on the fascist enemies of peace, it grows increasingly difficult for certain alleged friends of peace to continue their acrobatics in no man's land.

The Edens and Delbos can still say: "We believe in collective security. We will make every effort for collective security, but we cannot become involved in sanctions and suchlike measures, because that would mean war." They can still say this, but they have less chance of being believed.

That argument, which has been used to condone the abandonment of Ethiopia, Spain and China, and may tomorrow be used against Czechoslovakia, is utterly false. Though position after position, meekly or hypocritically, has been ceded to the enemy, yet the forces of democracy and peace, mobilised and united, would still be a hundredfold stronger than the fascist armies with their rearguard of threatening economic crisis and mass upheaval.



THE ONLY ROAD. All the Generals that Franco sends to Teruel dash back to Burgos defeated.

The resources of peaceful action against the aggressor states, far from being exhausted, have not yet been tried.

The alternative is clear enough — a continuation of the "diplomacy" of Eden and Delbos, which has already helped to bring the world two major wars and the prospect of greater wars just over the skyline; a diplomacy which has helped to turn Europe into a powder magazine with the incendiaries at large and everyone waiting for the next explosion. The "Pax Eden" still reigns — with two very important exceptions — but all sense of security is gone from the world.

At the Congress of the Communist Party of France, Thorez uttered the feeling of millions of Frenchmen: "When we see the attitude of France to the Spanish Republic we must blush with shame". He declared that in returning to a correct foreign policy, as laid down in the program of the People's Front, France should "repudiate secret diplomacy and appeal to the mass of the people for their co-operation. This is indispensable. While the fate of millions of human beings is at stake we are still in ignorance of the result of the conversations between Hitler and Lord Halifax." He showed that if such methods were followed it would be impossible for the British reactionaries to justify their capitulations with the authority of democratic France, and it would also be impossible for some men in the People's Front to make excuses for their

policy on the grounds of British pressure on France.

What then are the possibilities of preventing war from spreading to far greater areas in 1938? It seems that Washington, D. C., is beginning to realise that isolation and "neutrality" are fatal. It is known that America was prepared to go a considerable way towards co-operation against Japanese aggression at the Brussels Conference which betrayed China. Britain was not, and the Conference collapsed. The same thing is seen when we contrast the American and British official reactions to the sinking of the "Panay" and the "Ladybird". The British National Government is putting the brake on Roosevelt, for the British rulers are not only concerned about British interests in China. They fear effective peaceful action because they fear a Japanese collapse, a Chinese victory, and the consequent upsurge of the colonial and semi-colonial peoples in the Far East.

In his speech on January 3rd Roosevelt answered Mussolini's boast that "Europe tomorrow will be fascist." Roosevelt declared that peace was strongly threatened by or in the nations which rejected democracy or had never known it; but democracy would be restored in the countries which today were without it and on that hope depended the peace of mankind.

If the United States takes a definite stand for collective action the position of the British National Government will be very dif-

ficult. Previously Eden and Co. have excused themselves before the people with the alibi: "The others are not prepared to do anything. Why should we act alone?" The National Government would be seriously embarrassed precisely at a time when the British Labor movement is swinging into action on behalf of Republican Spain and simultaneously is launching a campaign against the rising cost of living. With such a background we can appreciate the importance of Herbert Morrison's statement that 1938 may see elections in Britain resulting in a change in British foreign policy — coming as it does from the leader of the London County Council, a man not given to making rash statements on such a question.

It is needless to insist on the fact that a change, or even the near prospect of a change in Britain's foreign policy in the direction of collective security, would meet with an immediate sympathetic response in France.

There exists, then, the possibility of a transformation in the international situation which would be very favorable to the Spanish Republic. The forces which can play the decisive role in bringing about this transformation have been enormously strengthened by the Republican victory of Teruel, for Teruel is also the victory of the French People's Front, the British Labor movement and of all the forces of peace and progress in the world.

A. M. E.

ALL TOO QUIET



And you're the man who said he didn't believe in non-intervention.

CONTRIBUTION OF CYPRUS TO THE CAUSE OF SPANISH DEMOCRACY

Cyprus, a small island in the Eastern Mediterranean, has a population of 340,000. Cyprus, now a British colony, has been under British imperialist domination since 1878. The foreign ruler subjects the people to a life of de-



COSTAS LAPITHIOTIS
Leader in the working class movement of Cyprus.

gradation and misery. The people are bled white by excessive taxation and of exploitation by the landlords. The peasant is propertyless and works from sunrise to sunset for 8 piastres to a shilling (20 cents) a day.

The most elementary civil rights and liberties are denied to the people. Freedom of political and trade union organisation, of assembly, and freedom of the press, do not exist. Strikes are criminal offences punishable by many years of imprisonment.

The people of Cyprus have a feeling of gratitude and admiration towards the Spanish people and the Cypriots in Spain in their struggle for Spanish and world democracy.

MAKE CONTRIBUTION

The people of the islands follow with great interest the course of the war. Many enthusiastic articles were written in support of the cause of Spanish democracy. The British Government does not allow the collection of money for Spain. This is "in accordance with the policy of non-intervention" pursued by His Majesty's Government which prohibits support "to either side". However, in spite of the ban, in the small villages and towns of the island, collections were made for Spain and the sum of £4000 has been collected and sent to Spain via London. Further collections are continued in all the districts of the island.

The Cypriots of London and New York are very active in their support for Spain. Over 60 Cypriots from Great Britain and the United States of America have been fighting on the Spanish battlefields. They are with the British and American Battalions. They have participated in all the major engagements of the war. Among others are Antonis Theodoulou, from Leonalissou, and J. Papaioannou, from Yermasoyia, who fought with the first English-speaking Company last December at Lopera on the Cordoba Front. At that battle J. Papaioannou, well known in the Cyprus colony of London for his good work on behalf of Cyprus, was wounded in the leg. Now he's back in London. Although crippled he continues the fight. Panayiotis Katsaronas is known amongst the Cypriots of both New York and London. He was a veteran of the Greco-Turkish war. He was killed on the Jarama on February 12th. He was defending with a machine-gun and when surrounded by the fascists in Company Two (Lieut. Fry's company), he refused to give up. The fascists riddled him with bullets.

Nicos Perdikos from Rizokarpason, a quiet and steadfast comrade, was killed on the Jarama on the 14th of February, during the counter attack of the British Battalion. Nicos Vasilou from Nicosia, wounded at Brunete, Anastasios Anastasiou and Yiakoumis Georgiou, both from Ayios Elias, George Dmirtreou from Lapithos, Pantelis Zacharia from Yialousa, Christos Constantinou from Kerynia, Nicolas Dimitri from Famagusta, Serghios Kossi-

des from Mesaoria, only 17, the youngest Cypriot in Spain, Spyros Fantelides from Kato-Drys and Costas Lapithiotis, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cyprus, sentenced three times for political activity for Cyprus independence, are among the London Cypriots who continue the fight in Spain.

The American Cypriots are also numerous. The following six, leading members of the progressive Cypriot organisation "Pankypriaki" of New York, V. Pattikis, Jimis Joannou, Christis Christodoulou, A. Thomas, Jacovos Kummolos and Georgios Pantazis have fought at Jarama, Brunete



ANTONIS THEODOULOU
Fighter in the first English-Speaking Company of December, 1936.

and the Aragon, Georgios Pantazis, one of the founders of the "Pankypriaki", and expert machine gunner, and Christos Christodoulou were killed on the last advance on Saragossa. There was Athanasiades from Bella-Pais who received wounds at Peñaroya while with the 86th Brigade last April, also Captain Nicolaides from Lanarka.

WORLD FIGHT

The fight of the Spanish people for the defence of their democratic liberties and their national independence, is at the same time the struggle of all the colonial peoples and oppressed national minorities.

The Cypriots, who have made the supreme sacrifice and those who continue the fight, together with their colonial brothers; the Indians and the Chinese, those

JAPAN FACED WITH LIKELY REVOLT IF WAR LASTS

Japan is faced with a revolution unless the war ends immediately. That is the opinion expressed by Charles C. Batchelder, former assistant chief of the Far Eastern Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, which is a branch of the U. S. Government that keeps extremely close watch over all events affecting foreign trade. Batchelder's views are recognised as careful and authoritative. Speaking before an audience of 500 persons in Town Hall, New York City, he indicated that while such a revolt could be suppressed by the rigorous military discipline now existing in Japan, the present course of events almost made a people's rising inevitable.

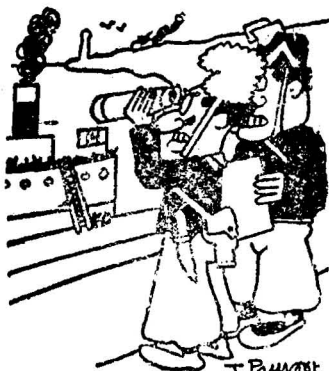
China's strategy is to draw the Japanese forces further into the interior, prolong the war and increase the strain on Japanese finances and resources. Tokio has therefore resorted, he pointed out, to a series of crushing taxes imposed on both the industrial and agricultural workers who form the bulk of the population. Specifically, he declared, more than half the soil under cultivation is owned by eight percent of the large landlords, and everywhere a great resentment is spreading against the rich.

"As a result", he concluded, "the laboring classes are honeycombed with socialism and communism. Police have tried to curtail these sentiments, but have succeeded only in aggravating the situation."

from New Zealand and Africa, the Cubans, the Philipinos and American Negroes, the Irish, and the hundreds from the dominion of Canada, have known the life of degradation and slavery in a colonial country. It is their firm determination to continue the fight and defeat fascism, so that Spain will never become a colony. The men here represent the expression of the will and aspirations of the colonial peoples throughout the world—a victory for democracy in Spain. These men represent the symbol of unity in the field of action between the colonial peoples and the workers and progressives of all countries in their struggle against the common enemy—fascism.

MICHAEL ECONOMIDES

OVERHEARD IN CADIZ



—And who are these 100,000 men?
—Oh, just a few of our 10,000 volunteers.

ON BEARDS—A REPLY

In a recent issue of "The Volunteer for Liberty" we find a scholarly article deriding the many beard wearers in the International Brigades. A very astute and interesting article — to the beardless. But to the man with a beard! To the man with a beard that has been the envy of all Spain, this article smacks of lack of foresight and misunderstanding.

The anonymous writer of the article "What's in a Beard?" is



THE AUTHOR of this article.

addressing a limited audience. He speaks to the small group of males in the Brigade who are hairless. He speaks to the children in our midst and to those to whom "HARRY'S LOTION FOR THE HAIRLESS", despite its attractive bottle and prohibitive price, was a waste of money. He addresses the weaklings and the sops.

BEARDS' REPUTATION

Beards have played an important role in the history of our civilization. We know that Adam boasted of a foot-long beard. The left group in Egypt and their leader Moses, all were men with chin adornments. Abe Lincoln, the famous axe and shovel man, had one and in the most progressive part of the world to-day, the Soviet Union, we find the bearded in the forefront. Marx, Engels and Lenin were proud bearers of a a hirsute chin.

In Spain to-day we find grave problems confronting us. We who arrived here in the Spring of last year encountered a new country fighting for its democratic rights. We found an army in the process of unification — and we found beards. We found them covering

the necks of our leaders: Campestino, Galleani and many others had recognized their value.

HISTORIC ROLE

Why did all these men have beards? The answer is simple. The answer is shown in the example set by our French comrades in the last war. During the GRANDE GUERRE the beard was prominent amongst the men that saved Paris. Practically every taxi driver that took Joffre's men to the Marne wore one. They had ample reason. Before the end of the war they found that the beard was worth its weight in bully beef. They found, as were the anti-fascist fighters in Spain to find, that a beard on the chin is worth more than a rolling stone.

In the defense of Madrid the beard played its part. When blankets were scarce, when food was not at hand — what men were able to stand longest against the guns of the enemy? The bearded!

With a beard to chew on and to cover you at night you are invincible. When you must stand long hours on guard at the front or in line for beer in Madrid — what comfort has the beardless man? When one of the greatest shortages in Spain has made itself evident, the great lack of "cambio", who among us has helped to ease the load of the government? Who among us? Can you beardless who must visit the barber daily answer in the affirmative? NO.

ATTRACTS GIRLS

Now to the final point, a point the anonymous author in the "Volunteer" dared not even mention. The effect of the beard on the female. Visit Albacete, Madrid, Barcelona or any town in which an International Brigade may have representatives. Walk down the "Calle Mayor", the "Gran Vía", "Calle Paz", or the "Ramblas" and what do you find? You find that the beardless travel alone. But what has that handsome bearded volunteer dangling on his arm, looking fondly into his eyes and listening oh so intently? A woman. And what a woman! Invariably she will be a masterpiece. A symphony of femininity.

The effect of the beard on nur-

BALLAD OF TERUEL

The General stood in Teruel
Whence not a few had fled;
He called his brave defenders up
And unto them he said:
"Soldiers, today we stand as one
To crush the wicked Red.



"On you, my brave ten thousand men,
I know I can depend
To guard our virgin citadel
Unto the bitter end.

"My staunch five thousand, mustered here,
Will march against the foe
And die with laughter on their lips
Because they like it so.

"I place implicit faith in you,
My fine six hundred men,
And I'll repay you all in gold
One day (no matter when).



"None dare assert there's braver troops
Or fairer flowers of youth
Than the two hundred standing here
(Well, not with any truth).

"Courage, my strong one hundred hearts!
The enemy arrive!
My fifty boys, my twenty lads,
My ten, my seven, my five..."

One soldier stood in Teruel
And boldly up spake he:
"You said, today we stand as one
That one shall not be me,"
"Get off my horse!" the General roared.
(The rest is history.)



ses is well known to all our on it minutely would be unfair to the beardless. But I must say, that the average wounded man bearing a beard is, without fail, at the top of the list among "Young Men Popular With Their Nurses".

To close: When beards are worn in the I. B., and you beardless are interested in mending your ways, wounded comrades and to touch

I say, "Ask the man who owns one!" Viva La Barba!

M. H.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Do you think that the growing of "Beards" should be encouraged or discouraged in our People's Army? Comrades with views on the subject are urged to send in their contributions.)

CHRISTMAS AT THE BRIGADE

In case any of the folks at home paused in the middle of their Christmas dinners to have a few sober thoughts about the boys in Spain, they will be glad to know that the boys had a very good time. The Brigade was in reserve over the festival, quarters were reasonably comfortable and the weather was fine and sunny. Units made arrangements for their own celebrations, in some cases combin-



PART of the 15th Brigade Political Commissariat staff at work.

ing; each is convinced that its own party was the best.

There was an abundance of good food, including as much meat as any man could put away. The Brigade boys ate turkey, chicken, pork, Christmas pudding and cakes. The sweeter side of the meal was largely made possible by the generosity of our friends at home, who sent parcels full of good stuff. It was a timely gift and much appreciated.

In each of the villages through which the Brigade units were distributed, the army and the people celebrated together. Music and dancing were organised, and toys and cakes given to the children, many of whom were refugees from the North. The toys included those which had been sent out from America.

When the Republican Army goes into fiesta, it does not set out to forget the war that brought it into the field. The fascists may need that sort of medicine. With us, the spirit of fiesta and military duties run side by side. Only an army that believes in what it is fighting for can combine the two. Together with the banquets and celebrations, parades and marches were organised and carried out with the same spirit. Owing to a change of timetable the Lincolns and the Twenty-Fourth Battalion were called to parade off the football field at a moment's notice. They went by as if they were used to doing it every day. Awards were made to men of the battalions who had given good service.

General Walter of the 35th Division visited the Brigade; distinguished visitors from Britain and America found their way up. Headquarters Staff were kept busy dashing from one banquet to another. A ghost appeared at the British Battalion's evening meal. Anti-Tanks claim to have gone one better with a Scarlet Woman, the



LOYALIST SOLDIERS in an S. R. I. library at the front.

central character in a sketch put on by the unit's dramatic group. The man who took this part had appeared once in public before, as the hind legs of a horse.

Brigade Commander Copic received a very fine gold watch, which had been subscribed for by all units. The following message was engraved on it in Spanish:

"To our friend and leader, Lt. Col. Copic, from all the men of the Fifteenth Brigade."

Fascists Cause Newsmen Tragedy

Two British and one American journalists were killed and another American reporter severely wounded at the beginning of Franco's desperate counter-offensive to regain Teruel from the Loyalists. From available accounts it seems that the mishap was the direct outcome of the fascists' acts of deception and denial of the facts in order to prevent their disaster from becoming known. When these reporters insisted on definite information, Franco assured them the city was still in his hands and invited them to go there and see for themselves. Under fascist escort they were led directly into the line of fire and were killed by Loyalist artillery covering the enemy rear at Teruel.

Eleven correspondents were in automobiles proceeding to the city and had come within a few kilometers of Teruel without being

Rebellion Planned Long Ago

Fully two years before the war broke out in Spain, the reactionary groups began making arrangements with Italy. This fact is reported in a significant article written by the diplomatic correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian". "For the first time, probably, since the beginning of the war", says the article, "one of the rebel chiefs—Antonio Goicoechea, leader of the Monarchist Party called Renovacion Española—has admitted the true purposes of the insurrection".

Pointing out that since July 1936 the rebels have unceasingly declared that they never would have taken up arms if a Bolshevik revolution were not imminent, the article shows that facts and quotations prove otherwise.

In a speech at San Sebastian on November 22, Goicoechea announced openly that since March 1934, certain conservative parties—including his own—had planned to seize the government and call upon the army to rebel. "If necessary for the good of Spain", he said, "we would precipitate a civil war".

warned of the peril when a shell struck the car containing the victims. They were Sheephanks, of the British Reuter Agency; Johnson, of the American magazine "Spur"; Neil, an American member of the Associated Press; and Philby, of the London "Times". The latter survives, while the bodies of the others are being shipped home to relatives.



WORKER in one of Madrid's factories which supply the War Medical Service department with metal medical equipment to be used at the front, or in the hospitals throughout Spain.





The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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STRONGER UNITY FORGED IN U. G. T.

The second important victory of the year has been won in the trade union field—the establishment of unity within the U. G. T. Union General de Trabajadores), the great socialist-communist trade union organisation.

In May 1937 when the Caballero Government came to an end the Executive Committee of the U. G. T. refused its co-operation in the formation of the new government unless it included Largo Caballero as President and Minister for War. Largo Caballero, in addition to being the former Premier and War Minister, was also at that time the General Secretary of the U. G. T. This demand being unacceptable to the political parties in the Popular Front, the new government was formed without the inclusion of representatives of the Trade Unions.

At its first meeting after the governmental crisis the National Committee of the U. G. T.—the highest body in the union federation—repudiated the line of the Executive Committee and pledged the support of the Federation to the Government. In addition it also made certain decisions with regard to the policy to be pursued by the Executive Committee, a policy which envisaged better relations with the political parties, with the regional U. G. T. of Catalonia, and with the C. N. T. With regard to the latter, the Executive Committee was charged with the task of preparing the ground for the unification of the two great trade union organisations.

Unfortunately, the Executive Committee under Caballero's leadership did not feel disposed towards carrying out this policy. Instead of an improvement in the relations with the political parties, the Executive Committee found reasons for disassociating themselves from any activities with which the Communist Party was in any way connected and even refused to have a speaker at the great Popular Front meeting in

Valencia on July 18 on the excuse that the platform included a communist. In the trade union field, rather than fighting for the unification of the two great union federations, in its place they formed an agreement with the C. N. T. which was nothing more than a "non-aggression" pact—a pact not for mutual activity, but a completely negative arrangement with no other object than to prevent criticism of one another.

In reply to the tremendous criticism which this policy brought forth from the unions, fourteen important unions were expelled by the executive on technical grounds. This was regarded as a manoeuvre of the Executive to eliminate the sections most critical of their actions.

Appeals to the Executive Committee to call together the National Committee to discuss the grave situation which had developed fell on deaf ears. Eventually the position became such that, on the initiative of the expelled unions, a meeting of the National Committee was called to deal with the matter. This meeting took place at Valencia on Sept. 30th. and was attended by 31 of the 42 unions in

the Federation, in addition to the Secretary of the Catalanian U. G. T. and Felipe Pretel the U. G. T. treasurer and member of the Executive Committee. At this meeting a new Executive Committee was elected under the leadership of Gonzalez Peña.

The election of a new Executive by the vast majority of the unions appeared on the face of things to be the solution of the whole question. This, unfortunately, was not the case. A few of the unions continued to support the deposed Executive and it looked as if a definite split would take place in the Federation. The spectacle of disunity within the ranks of the U. G. T. had serious repercussions in the relations with the C. N. T. and also abroad, and in order to find a way out of the difficulty a plea was made to the International Federation of Trade Unions to intervene in the matter with the object of reestablishing the unity of the Federation.

As a result of the meetings with the I. F. T. U. in Paris, Leon Jouhaux came to Spain and definite proposals were made at a meeting of the National Committee including members of the deposed

Executive Committee, which took place on the 29th. of December. The proposal was that a new Executive Committee should be formed consisting of the Executive Committee which was elected at Valencia on Sept. 30th. to which would be added four members of the deposed Executive. This proposal was agreed to by both parties and was ratified by an Extended Plenum of the U. G. T. which took place on Jan. 2nd.

The new Executive Committee of the U. G. T. now consists of fifteen members and represents the complete unity of the Federation. But not only does it represent unity, it also represents the end of personal policies within the Federation. Largo Caballero, one time General Secretary of the U. G. T., and the most powerful influence in the old Executive is not one of the four members of that committee elected to the new body. With his passing, passes the stubborn personal character of the policy which was heading the Federation to disaster.

With the election of the new Executive, a new and vigorous policy has been initiated. United as never before, the U. G. T. is taking determined steps to deal with the tremendous problems before the Spanish trade unionists. Already fresh approaches have been made to the C. N. T. on the question of unification, already amicable relations have been reestablished with the socialist and communist parties, already better relations have been made with the U. G. T. of Catalonia.

The old spirit has been cast aside, a new spirit has taken its place. In the near future we are assured of great advances in the trade union field arising out of the newly forged unity within this great trade union federation. The unified command in the army made possible the victory of Teruel; unity within the U. G. T. will make possible great victories over the difficulties in the rearguard.

A. D.



ALL LOYAL workers greet the new unity within the U. G. T. They know that this unity spells the eventual death of fascism

MORALE - THE DOMINATING WEAPON AT TERUEL

It is reported that the severity of the weather played a part in holding up the fascist winter offensive. The fascist command was unwilling to risk an attack in the intense cold, not out of consideration for their troops but because they had doubts of how the men would stand up to this added hardship. Meanwhile the Republican Army assaulted and took Teruel, under conditions which the fascists were afraid to face.

possibility of error is too wide to make anything more than a cautious speculation profitable. Is it interesting to speculate. We heard stories of uprisings behind Franco's lines before Teruel was taken, and were assured of their authenticity. The desertion of the Navarrese companies proved that even the crack Spanish fascist troops cannot be relied on. Trouble is reported from Huesca, and many Spaniards are leaving rebel territory

fronts, but probably with more qualified by the uncertainty of what would happen when the new Republican Army faced the full fascist power, released from its northern preoccupations.

The outcome may well have surprised even the more optimistic of the Government's sympathisers outside Spain. Far from losing the initiative, the Army launched the biggest offensive of its career and won it in record time. Again we cannot calculate

coming, they would have risked the snow. There is every sign that they were taken completely by surprise once again. Now they are faced with the necessity of calculating over again on the basis of the new situation that has arisen following our success. They can no longer fight the war where they please.

The complementary effect to this one is, of course, the reaction on the fascist rank and file, and on all those who live in rebel territory and whose destinies, with or without their goodwill, depend upon the plans made by the fascist high command. The news must certainly have fallen very heavily on fascist Spain and considerably increased the general feeling of anxiety. The absurd lengths to which fascist propaganda was taken in the attempt first to deny, then to belittle the Republican victory, including General Castellanos's fantastic military bulletin, betray something approaching a moment of panic. The tone of Franco's subsequent Telegram to Mussolini, asking for 100,000 more men in terms which are described as servile, does nothing to dispel this impression.

SIGNS OF DESPERATION

It appears, too, that the fascist counter-attacks were launched hurriedly and with a reckless lack of forethought. Their one aim was to regain Teruel. Wave after wave was thrown at the Republican positions. They evidently believed they could retake the city by weight alone, and they seem to have considered it worth any amount of sacrifice to do so. This in itself belies their subsequent repudiation of their defeat as a matter of no vital importance; and their risky venture of sending up foreign journalists in a convoy to demonstrate that they had not lost Teruel proves both their error of judgment and the significance they attached to the result of the action.

They put everything immediately available into these efforts. They resorted to the so-called "psychological" method of attack, sending over successive lines of men in a continual forward movement, the living stepping over the dead. This manoeuvre inevitably means heavy losses, and so far the losses have been to no purpose.

OUTSIDE SPAIN

Everybody on both sides knows that the issue of this war is closely connected with the world outside Spain. Those in other countries who follow events intelligently react to the same moral influences as the troops themselves. Observers sympathetic to the Government were awaiting, as we were, the result of the full concentration of the fascist forces on the main



SCENES of the huge demonstrations celebrated in Barcelona which honoured the Republican Army for the capture of Teruel

It offers an interesting comparison in morale between the two armies. Ultimately, morale is the dominating weapon of any war, because it is the necessary basis for the good use of all others. Soldiers cannot learn to become efficient, or retain a full standard of efficiency, unless their hearts are in the job. Lapse of morale on both sides brought the last war to what some considered an untimely end. In the early days of the Spanish Civil War, the improvised militia had little else to rely on; but they did wonders with it.

FASCIST BACKGROUND

One can reckon on paper the balance of superiority between two forces in numbers, arms and equipment. It is impossible to add and subtract anything so intangible as morale. Its strength or its weakness on either of two sides can only be judged by what appears on the surface. The

for France. Low wages, high prices, unemployment even, are having their effect on those of the poorer classes who were not already hostile to Franco's regime, and increasing the bitterness of the rest. Such are the conditions of general unrest and depression behind the fascist lines at the present time. Though a mood cannot be given an index number, these items of news, as they come into Republican Spain, afford us a general picture of the Fascist background.

AFTER THE NORTH

The subjection of the North was carried out not only with brutality but with a formidable show of fascist power. While Franco's main forces were engaged in this campaign, the Government tested out its power to take the initiative and proved its ability to do so at Brunete and in Aragon. These successes were encouraging, but their significance was

the effect of this victory in terms that reach beyond the gain in ground, casualties, prisoners and captured or destroyed material, but it seems certain that the effect has gone deep in more quarters than one.

MORAL EFFECTS

In terms of morale, the outcome of Teruel is probably more far-reaching behind the fascist lines than behind our own, though in the opposite direction. With them it is two-fold. It has disjoined the plans of the command, taking out of their hands the superiority they believed they held, and depriving them of the choice of ground for any major action until and unless they win it back with an equal victory. That they were confident of possessing this superiority is made clear by the leisurely way in which they prepared for their winter offensive. An immediate action might have forestalled our own success at Teruel. Had they known what was

misgiving, as they had no direct contact with the soldiers and civilians in Republican Spain and therefore could not feel the stimulus of the spirit which prevails in Government territory and the confidence that arises from it. Teruel was a tonic for such people. The test came, and the result of it was a hundred per cent in the Government's favour. Now the whole world, including the fascist powers, have concrete evidence with which to revise their view of the position.

Mussolini can hardly fail to be convinced that Franco's telegram, however distasteful to him, is justified; but it is very questionable that he will risk sending so many men out of his own country. He is faced with a spreading instability at home, a troublesome and still unsubdued empire in Abyssinia, and conditions of growing uncertainty in Europe around him. Without these extra forces, what will Franco do? His supposed strength has dwindled visibly with his alleged position of advantage; his power of offensive now seems far less menacing than it did.

Since the beginning, Spanish fascism has made the important error of underestimating the force of morale. Perhaps this is because those in command have never had first-hand experience of its positive side. What it has been able

to accomplish has puzzled them at each successive stage of the war. After a year and a half of campaigning, they are still without sufficient imagination to understand that enthusiasm is not a childish thing. Under competent direction enthusiasm can build up and train an Army capable of winning a series of victories of increasing magnitude, the most recent of which must prove even to the most unimaginative Generals that by this time the enemy has grown up to their own level.

For us, there is only one danger that can arise out of our success, the danger of over-optimism. Teruel is called the «beginning of the end». Some estimate that two more victories of equal importance will finally break fascism in Spain. All of this may be true, but even one more victory like Teruel will need, as great an effort. Teruel has given us our chance. Now more than ever is the time to concentrate on the work in hand. The fascists are not going to let this defeat go by without putting everything into an attempt to swing back the balance, whether in further counter-attacks or in a different sector. However big their losses in the action up to the present time, their resources are far from exhausted and they may import many more. They will fight, and are already fighting, with the strength of desperation, which is formidable while it lasts.



PART of the British Labour Delegation [which recently visited Spain. Left: E. Shinwell, M. P., former Minister for Mines in the Labour Government. It was he who defeated Ramsay MacDonald. Center: Hannen Swaffer, popular Daily Herald journalist who expressed confidence in Republican victory. Right: T. Williams, Miners' M. P.

“I See Everywhere the New Army”

BY HANNEN SWAFFER

The last time I was in Madrid was Alfonso's wedding day. That was forty years ago. Then, the streets were crowded with a populace that cheered the old order, the effete monarchy of Spain, and basked in the reflected brilliance of a corrupt and repressive aristocracy. Suddenly, a few yards from where I stood at the corner of the Calle Mayor a bomb dropped.

Well, thirty years have passed, and I stand in a Madrid that is being shelled by the friends of that cruel old system. They fire on it from the heights outside in the daylight. They drop bombs on it from the air in the darkness.

Brutal and desperate, they turn their guns on wounded in the hospitals, women working in their homes, children playing in the streets. They seek to subdue by fear.

Yet, they will fail. Even when, not much more than a year ago, the people of Madrid were almost defenceless, they fought on with a few rifles. They fought for Liberty. They died for Liberty. They fight on for Liberty. There is no fear in their hearts. There is a light in their eyes. Ideals of freedom, justice and democracy burn in their souls.

The old Spain is dead. I have seen, thank God, the birth of a new Spain.

A hundred thousand homes in one quarter of Madrid are empty—evacuated by people who might die in their beds because of rebel shell-fire, had they not moved to safer quarters.

But in spite of all that, life in Madrid seems almost quiet, in spite of the barricades, in spite of the one quarter of Madrid are empty of food. There is high courage in the air.

I see everywhere the new Army, the brave youth of the new Spain transformed in a few months from civilians into fighting men, determined to die, if need be, to save for the world the principles of freedom, truth and justice.

It is an inspiration to us all. I bow in reverence in the midst of so much sacrifice. But then, raising my head in pride, I salute this brave splendid people, the pioneers of a new social order, the pioneers of a new civilization.

Down with fascism, darkness, ignorance, greed and cruelty! All hail to the Spanish people!

Fascism is wrong, liberty is right and in the long end, right must win.

AMENDS



COLUMBUS. At last! At last! Now I need never feel sorry again.



LIBERATED after more than a year under Franco's domination at Teruel, she is now in loyal territory. Does she look sorry?

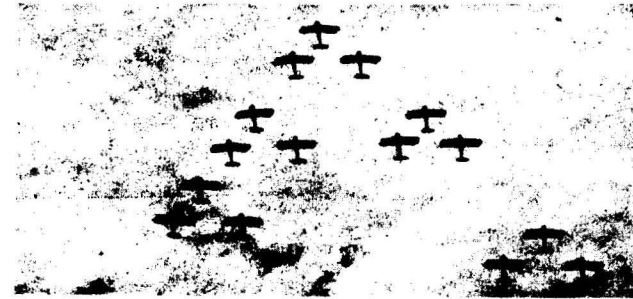
Franco's German Aviation Responsible For Fall of North, Says French War Expert

(General Armengaud, author of the recent article in a Toulouse paper from which we reproduce the extracts below, is a member of the general staff of the French air force and an authority on aspects of war aviation.)

Mussolini pretends to be proclaiming something to the whole world, but he is actually trying to make the Italian people believe that his blackshirt divisions covered themselves with glory in the invasion of Spain. In reality their role has been distinctly mediocre. It was the German aviation that conquered on the Northern front. The Italian troops, as well as Franco's Spanish troops, had nothing more to do than overcome the Loyalists' badly weakened resistance and occupy their positions.

FACED HEAVY ODDS

This is affirmed by a colonel of infantry who commanded first a brigade, and later a division, at Bilbao, Santander and Gijon. He is corroborated by the former chief of staff and by the aviation commander of the Republican Army of the North. According to their evidence,



ENEMY AVIATION flying over Madrid

there can be no doubt that, with even a semblance of equality in air strength, the Government could have held out. They could have done so in spite of the fact that their troops were composed of improvised groups of untrained men, many of them in the forty year age-category. They could have done so even though their defensive organization was not entirely unified, even though the fascist artillery was superior in amount, caliber and supply of ammunition.

No attack is prepared by artillery alone. By itself the artillery

all objectives were totally destroyed front and rear.

This aviation was exclusively German. The best proof of this is the fact that of the thirty to forty planes brought down by the Loyalists in the North, all the surviving pilots were German. With its air force following a plan which is characteristically methodical, continuous, powerful and merciless, it is Germany that has played the decisive role in Spain since last spring.

There is, of course, no doubt that the situation on the Eastern



AN AVIATION factory in the rear. "The Spanish war in the air is Spanish on one side only; the other side is German and Italian"

cannot ensure the success of an attack. For such purposes, it is the aviation which produces real results. It is the aviation which breaks up the lines of defense with damage both moral and material. At the gates of Bilbao, for example, two complete Loyalist companies were lost, buried by one bombardment. There really were no genuine fascist infantry attacks. Only after days and days of incessant air raids, when the occupants of the front lines had been buried, stunned and paralyzed by bombardment, did the fascist infantry go forward.

These planes operated on the principle of mass formation. On one day alone 117 machines took the air simultaneously. They worked systematically in groups, each plane concentrating on an assigned zone, with relief groups replacing one another steadily to maintain an uninterrupted bombardment for hours. The heavy bombers were assisted by chasers, and together they bombed, machine-gunned and dropped incendiary charges until

and other fronts is already different from the North. But the facts and occurrences there indicate more than a possibility that Germany and Italy are going to increase their air strength in Spain with the view of using the same procedure as in the North. Nor will they hesitate to use the same tactics on the rear. If that does happen, the non-intervention policy will have staged a spectacle so treacherous, so hateful and so lamentable that no catastrophe in the annals of Europe could equal it.

Many French citizens still do not feel concerned at this scandalous situation. Misinformed by certain recent orators in the Chamber of Deputies, people are saying that the Spanish Government has been supplied with 540 French planes and that its whole air force is a French and Russian one.

The truth is that the Loyalist aviation is numerically smaller, though of better quality, than the fascist. The truth is that the Loyalist planes — bodies, motors and accessories — are manufactured in



THREE-MOTOR German plane brought down by one of our "Chatos"

SWEET AND LOW



Sleep, my little one, sleep.

Spain by Spaniards. The truth is that, except for a few pilots whose presence is admitted and not concealed, the entire Government air force is Spanish.

To sum up, the Spanish war in the air is Spanish on one side only: the other side is German and Italian. That is the result of a policy of non-intervention which could more accurately be called a permit of invasion.

Breadless Trip

The beauty of Benicasim has become almost legendary among men who haven't been there. It is called the Earthly Paradise. The Earthly Paradise once ran short of bread, and a comrade of the Auto-Park at the International base was detailed to drive down with a load. The prospect went to his head like wine, and he set out immediately.

Upon his arrival, the Earthly Angels came anxiously round to collect their bread. He was as surprised as they were to find that the camion was empty. In his eagerness to start, he had forgotten to call round at the bakery for his consignment.

Another story is told in the Auto-Park of a comrade who heard the air-alarm go off one night, and obedient to the standing order to man camions, rushed out of his quarters with his gas-mask on and his trousers off.

Prisoners

A distinguished visitor, being conducted round the lines, noticed a large number of men with rifles gathered round four who had none.

«Can you explain to me», he said, «Why so many guards are required for four prisoners?»

«Guards?» said his guide. «You've got it wrong. Those are the prisoners. The other four are the fellows who captured them.»

Barcelona Food Collectives Flourish in New Experiments

Spain's industrial life since the beginning of the war has taken various social forms to improve not only output for the Government and people but conditions for workers. While many small establishments still remain under their original private ownership, a great number of firms have come under workers' control. Full collectivization in industry has proceeded gradually, as the situation required, but is definitely increasing by force of example. Collectives in several industries are justifying themselves by the two great fundamental tests. They help the Government in fighting the war and, at the same time, they satisfy the workers engaged in that task.

An outstanding example is the collectivization of food industries in Barcelona. The bare facts are given here. They speak for themselves.

FOOD COLLECTIVE

The Federation of Food Workers of Barcelona control 114 establishments, which vary in size and special function. Their natural link together is that they all deal in one way or another with food. Under the decree of October 24, 1936, authorizing voluntary collectivization, these separate units adopted collective form. However, they still remained individual stores or shops or hotels. Simply the inner life was collectivized. Welcome as this change was, it soon proved not quite complete. Within a few months the workers controlling the-

se units formed a full industrial collective under a single management consisting of a director, two sub-directors, a legal advisor, a permanent committee and a managing board. Every one of these functionaries was elected in a full assembly attended by all the workers connected with the 114 units. One official, an inspector, is appointed by the Catalanian Generalidad, the central government of the province.

Each unit has a responsible director named by the managing board of the collective, together with a council of workers in the specific establishment elected for that one purpose by their fellow workers.

WIDE SCOPE

The scope of the collective consists of thirty hotels and inns, three fine restaurants and five of the second class, ten large cafés, fifty-two bar cafés, five street-stands, three truck farms and several grocery stores. Also included are five large shops and warehouses, of which two are for foodstuffs, two for utensils and one for refrigeration. The collective has a sausage factory, an ice-cream factory and a conserves plant. It also has a nursery garden, a lamp factory, and sections of carpenters, painters, bricklayers and needle workers.

The membership of the collective is now more than 4000, of whom 1000 are women. The number increases steadily as new workers are added to the various units. Quite a

few new people were taken on recently when the popular restaurant units began a new scheme of serving meals. It was so successful that now 6000 customers are fed daily, while 5000 more are served in the other eating establishments of the organization. The daily consumption of coffee amounts to 250 kilos, making 21,000 cups. Beer, until the recent governmental rationing began in Barcelona, was used at the rate of 7,500 litres a day.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Members of the collective receive complete social welfare service. When sick they get full pay. In cases of protracted invalidism or for old age they get fifty per cent of their pay. Women members, when pregnant, receive five weeks leave on full pay. The collective has established free medical attention with a staff of specialists for all common ailments.

The two great labor federations of Spain, both U. G. T. and C. N. T., are represented in the general collective membership. However, the U. G. T. enjoys a two-to-one popularity in numbers, which is also reflected in the composition of the managing board, where of the fifteen officers, ten belong to the U. G. T.

A recent statement issued by this collectivized Federation of Food Workers of Barcelona is significant. «We cannot speak of the present economic situation of the collective», it says, «without remembering the difficulties in which many of our units found themselves at the moment of becoming collectivized. Nor can we forget the liabilities we inherited from the previous bourgeois owners which, in accordance with the law, had to be liquidated. But the food workers, all the workers of our industry, have known how to handle the enormous responsibility they assumed. We have not spared our best energies in order to bring about a transformation of the industry and to serve the people well. In this way we have overcome all the obstacles. Today we have created reserve stocks which are worth 2,000,000 pesetas, and besides that the collective has built up a fund of 2,000,000 pesetas more in cash for emergencies.»



PART of a collective at work.



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FORTIFICATION

With the conclusion of the Aragon campaigns and the approach of winter, the Republican Army occupied itself with strengthening its defences against the long-expected and much publicised fascist attack. The importance of this work was emphasised in view of the nature of events immediately to come, which, it was generally recognised, would be critical and perhaps decisive. The passing of the initiative into the hands of the Government does not mean that the study of fortifications is less important than it was.

It would be short-sighted to suppose that the fighting round Teruel has eliminated the possibility of a big fascist push. It is as necessary as ever to strengthen our defences in every sector of the line. The necessity increases with the development and intensification of trench warfare.

Defending troops, if they are able to break the first impetus of an offensive without serious loss of ground, have every opportunity of reversing the movement of the battle. Hence the importance to the enemy of the element of surprise, and the importance to us of being ready at any time and in every place. The losses of men and morale among the attacking forces will be proportionately greater as they fail to gain their objectives. When they have exhausted their first strength without effect, they are left in a very vulnerable position. From lines which are still intact, the forces formerly on the defensive can now launch a counter-attack with the advantage in their hands. The organisation behind their lines is undisturbed, and men and material can be brought up along the prepared lines of communication. Under such conditions the weapon of counter-attack is very powerful. Obviously its effectiveness depends on the extent to which the enemy's attack has been resisted.

Knowledge of the principles of fortification is as essential in an offensive as in a defensive action. When our infantry first drove forward in the movement to encircle Teruel, the engineers of one Brigade were unable to follow up and dig their new positions. The infantry had to do their own digging, though it meant giving up valuable hours of sleep. They fortified themselves so effectively that they successfully held the violent fascist counter-drives. During these actions, every machine-gun maintained continuous fire, which means that every gun position had a fully effective fire-field—a tribute to the seriousness with which our Army had studied the technical lessons of fortification. The counter-attacks cost the fascists forty per cent of their men.

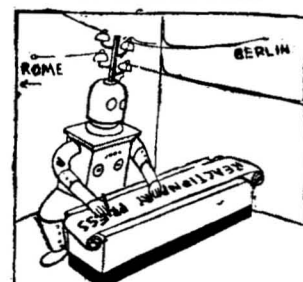
As soon as an attack ceases to move forward, whether or not the objective has been gained, the attackers become defenders. The reaching of an objective is never more than half the battle, and is certainly not the time to rest. Work has to be done quickly and positions chosen without lengthy deliberation. At such a time an experienced eye is worth any amount of enthusiastic ignorance. It is then that the value of training is amply proved.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

WEST POINT, Sandhurst and all the other famous military schools are studying the operations at Teruel, but the fascist radio at Valladolid has its special brand of strategy. It goes like this: "The Reds used a typical Bolshevik deception. Because the ground was completely covered with snow, they put on white blankets and were thus able to sneak up without being seen in time."... MUSSOLINI keeps an army of 250,000 in Ethiopia. How many is he going to keep in Spain—permanently?... THE ITALIAN newspaper "Lavoro Fascista" states: "The exodus of peasants from the land has left some localities completely depopulated. The position of sharecroppers in Tuscany is such that they can no longer exist." Papers in Francoland, please copy... GERMAN unemployment is going up, latest figures reveal, which do not, however, include the famous engineers who once worked on fortifications

nese rank-and-file. It never goes into action except against bandits, and it is only when the enemy is actually sighted that bullets are distributed to the soldiers, with unused bullets carefully collected later. Is it lack of ammunition or lack of confidence, or does it make much difference?... QUEIPO DE LLANO

THE EDITOR'S DESK



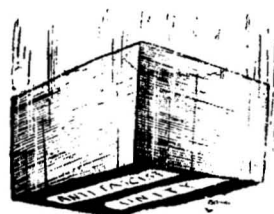
He got brains

NO, the good old ass of Seville, put his head into it and came up with an idea about Teruel. He says the "Reds" got the place because the garrison commander surrendered without permission from his superiors... THE SULTAN OF MOROCCO underwent an operation the other day. It was slight. Teruel was much more painful... HEARST reporters in Francoland wear the fascist uniform, while the correspondent of a conservative London daily, just returned from rebel territory, remarked "Damn it all, sometimes one would really rather be writing for the Daily Worker."... A BURGOS editorial



at Teruel... THE COUNT of Covadonga, son of ex-king Alfonso, has just divorced his second wife in Cuba. Atta boy! Now he's going to put all he's got into winning the war... THE MANCHUKUO ARMY has Japanese officers and Chi-

TERUEL'S EVE



BENITO... And as for their damned Republican Army, we'll crush it to pulp.



says: "Franco will save Spain." In what country is Teruel?... THE BRITISH army was lately reformed with a lot of talk about progress. Maybe that's why the family of an airman, killed in a recent crash, received a letter of condolence with a postscript requesting payment of the dead man's unsettled mess account... SEVILLE has a typhoid epidemic. Also Queipo de Llano... "THAT he feels himself closely allied to the Jewish assassins of Red Spain is only a case of common blood and identical mentality. Charley Chaplin is fundamentally a Jew." That's from Hitler's pal, Julius Streicher, who simply cannot pronounce the word "anti-fascist."

IF FRANCO RESORTS TO POISON GAS-

In my former article I described the more important types of gas, and their use by attackers. I gave what I thought to be the reasons why Franco has not used them, and suggested that, if he does so, it will probably be before the hot weather starts. I will now deal briefly with the defensive side of the problem.

SPANISH MASK GOOD

Several comrades have criticized the Spanish army mask, and suggested to me that it is far inferior to the British. It will not give protection against gas for quite so long as the British. But we may be sure that gas will not be used in Spain in the vast quantities which were possible in a country so well provided with roads and railways as northern France. Further, it is easier to run in the British mask than the Spanish. On the other hand the Spanish mask is solid, and far more easily made. I certainly should not ask anything better for myself.

The main absorbent is a specially prepared charcoal, which has the great merit of stopping all gases and vapours of a fairly high boiling point, regardless of their chemical composition. The idea of a new gas which will get past it is almost certainly bunk. Besides the charcoal, there is a pad of felt to stop smokes.

OTHER SAFE METHODS

A great many masks have been lost. Now we may be sure that the enemy will not use gas in defence, but only as part of a carefully prepared attack, or counter-attack. It therefore seems a doubtful policy to send men into an attack with masks. It might be better to send these up with spades, ammunition, and the like, when the line is consolidated. It must be remembered that if you lose your mask you not only endanger your life, but increase the strain on the government's factories.

After your mask, your second line of defence is a gas-proof room or dugout. Such a room must not have a fire, which will either draw air in from outside, or, if the room is really gas-tight, will suffocate the inhabitants. Windows should be shut. If they are broken, wet blankets or curtains should be gas-proof, and a wet blanket hung over the door. If possible, get a wooden frame, and tack the blanket to it except at the bottom, where a man

The Second and Final Article Telling What Gas is and How to Fight it

PROF. J. B. S. HALDANE

can lift it and crawl in. A wooden strip sewn to the bottom will make it fall back into position afterwards.

During a bombardment with a non-persistent gas or smoke, positions must be held, as the enemy can follow up such an attack in a few minutes. But until the enemy infantry appears, most men should stay in dugouts. If they are gas-proof there is no need to wear masks in them. But when in doubt always put your mask on.

MUSTARD GAS

Mustard gas is another matter. The enemy will not advance over contaminated ground for several days. So a small area splashed with dichlor-ethyl-sulphide should be evacuated unless it is to be held at all costs, the cost in this case being some nasty blisters. Put your mask on the moment you smell mustard and keep it on till you get orders to the contrary. The nose soon gets fatigued and ceases to smell the gas, and many have died from taking their masks off too soon.

If a drop of liquid dichlor-ethyl-sulphide falls on your skin from a spray or shell burst, wash it off wi-

thin; two minutes with water, wine, or urine and rub the place with soap, cloth, or earth, till the skin is red. If your clothes are splashed, get them off in five minutes, or you will blister. Even boots are penetrated within half an hour. Wash drops off your rifle with water, urine, or wine, followed by oil if you have it. Leave contaminated objects in the sun and air as long as you can without touching them.

Dugouts and gas-proof rooms are particularly useful against mustard gas. But a single comrade entering such a room with the liquid on his clothes or boots may poison a whole number. Protection against mustard gas is greatly helped if troops have chloride of lime for decontaminating ground, boots, and arms, and if cotton or paper soaked in substances which detect the vapour are available. But these are not in any way essential.

CALM IN EMERGENCY

A comrade without a mask is in danger, but is not certain to perish, during a gas attack. He can often take refuge in a dugout. If not, a certain amount of protection is gi-

ven to the lungs by breathing through a wet muffler or other loose fabric. Wet it with water, wine, or urine, but there is no ad-



SNOWMAN IN MADRID

Franco, Franco,
Generalissimo,
The little kids are making you
Of effigies in snow.

Of you, Franco,
Generalissimo!
They're making you and mocking you
With ordinary snow.

You know, Franco,
Generalissimo,
If little kids mix hate and fun —
You know how they will grow.

Franco, Franco,
Generalissimo!
Command your cannon's hardest steel
To strike and lay them low!

If not, Franco,
Generalissimo,
It happens as the sun comes up —
You melt as does the snow.

M. MICKENBERG

vantage in the last. I tried it in 1915.

If you have no mask, and start running during an attack with non-persistent gas, you will merely breathe ten times as much as usual, and die ten times as quick. On the other hand you had better run from an area contaminated with mustard gas. Get out of the area, and do not go just to leeward of it, but don't run too far!

Above all, remember that gas is not supernatural, that it did not win the 1914-18 war, and is unlikely to win this one. It can be met by the proper use of masks, and above all by discipline. Exactly like an air raid, a gas attack will cause ten times as many casualties among undisciplined as disciplined troops. And it may cause a panic.

In the event of a gas attack I am sure that the International Brigades will set an example of calm and discipline to their Spanish comrades, as they have done in other emergencies.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PARIS. — The French Minister of Foreign Affairs issued an official statement denying all rumors that the Spanish People's Army in its Teruel operations was directed by French military officers. It also stated that "the fantastic reports concerning the number of French citizens killed or wounded at Teruel as members of that army are completely denied by their own exaggerated contents".

AMSTERDAM. — The increasingly reactionary government of Holland has sentenced Fritz Adler, secretary of the Second International, to four months in jail for entering the country without proper papers.

MADRID. — The Basque people of New York City have sent General Miaja another ambulance to be used on "our front of liberty".

LANGLEY FIELD, Virginia. — Making an elaborate test flight, a new U. S. Army bomber crossed the continent (a distance of 3,700 kilometers) in eleven hours. It sets a new record for this type of plane, which has four motors, weighs sixteen tons and is called "The Flying Fortress".

BERLIN. — The British Ambassador was forced to make an official protest to the German Government because of the violent series of attacks launched in the Nazi press against the action of Great Britain in invoking the Treaty of Minorities of 1919 on behalf of the Jews of Rumania, recently deprived of their civic rights by the new fascist regime. The Nazi press slander has been officially stopped.

ALICANTE. — A Dutch vessel, the "Hannah Holland", bound

for Valencia with a cargo of wheat and beans, was torpedoed and sunk off the coast at Alicante. Government patrols succeeded in rescuing the entire crew. As usual, the pirate submarine was unidentified.

PARIS. — When an official Japanese delegation came to the Farman aircraft plant, the workers immediately downed tools and organized a demonstration of protest in the streets outside the factory. One of their slogans was "Planes for China and for Spain". The Japanese departed hastily, whereupon the workers went back to the job. Their union representatives warned the plant management that similar steps would be taken against delegations from any fascist or aggressor nation.

SOFIA. — The Workers' Party of Bulgaria, preparing for the national elections in March, has called for the formation of a Popular Front. Appeals have been sent to the other working class parties as well as to those representing the democratic, liberal and radical forces of Bulgaria.

MEXICO CITY. — Notices from Central America indicate that a revolutionary uprising has begun in Guatemala against dictator-president Ubico. The nature of his government and the condition of the people of Guatemala can be understood from the fact that Ubico was one of the first to recognize the Franco regime in Spain and that he has maintained close relations with Hitler. He was one of the founders of that league of Central American dictatorships which agrees that political refugees from any of the member countries will be sent back immediately for proper treatment in the country from which they were forced to flee. A rigorous censorship is in effect to prevent more definite news from coming out.

BUCHAREST. — Settling a deep-seated dispute that has existed for six years, the Liberal Party and the Liberal Dissidents of Roumania have consolidated their separate organizations. They announce that the fascist threat of the newly formed government demands the unification of all liberty-lovers.

LONDON. — The widow of James P. Connolly, hero of Ireland's Easter Week uprising of 1916, is on the point of death at the age of 68. The original Irish Company of the Lincoln Battalion, which took the name of Connolly as its own, was her special pride.

Strange Experience under Mosquito Crest

A ghost story of the war has come our way. Readers may interpret it as they please; the comrade who tells it offers no explanation, nor shall we. Here it is.

Comrade C. went into the Brunete offensive with the British Battalion. Villanueva de la Cañada was taken, and the Battalion moved forward to positions under Mosquito Crest. C. found cover for himself, and crouched down. He was lying alone.



Presently he noticed that somebody else was lying a short distance away. It surprised him, for he had seen nobody arrive. The man wore a scarf that was immediately familiar to C. The colours and pattern were unmistakeable. It belonged to an American friend who had bought it when he had gland trouble. The

impression was completed by the man's helmet, which had a certain shape and marks which C. also connected with his friend. Something in the way the man was lying aroused C's suspicions, and he decided to crawl across.

It took him some time to edge over the intervening space. When he arrived, he found that this was his friend as he had supposed, and he was dead. Evidence showed that he had died very recently. C. was puzzled, since to his knowledge the Americans were in a different part of the battle, and this man had no reason to be here. He decided to take any papers that might be in his friend's pockets, in case there was anything he would have liked to have preserved. Before he could do so, a bullet hit the ground close to him, and another followed. It was too dangerous to stay where he was, so he made his way back without the papers. Shortly afterwards he was wounded and was taken away to a hospital.

Some weeks later, when being moved from one hospital to another, he was waiting on a station platform for a train. He saw someone he knew walking down the platform, and following a little behind, a man wearing the scarf he had last seen on his friend's dead body. As they drew level, he was astonished to find that the wearer of the scarf was its original owner, the man he had found dead beneath Mosquito Crest.

This man had never been in the Brunete action. He was on an entirely different front at the time.

MISTAKE SOMEWHERE



Don't stretch out your hand like that, you fool. I don't want them to know that I'm a fascist



SPANISH WOMEN mending soldiers' clothes near the front lines



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



Vol. II - No. 4

Barcelona, February 5 - 1938



SCENES of the burial services held in Tarragona to pay tribute to the four British seamen killed while working on the S. S. Thorpness by bombs dropped from Hitler's planes.

To Carry on as British Sailors, Says Captain of bombed Ship

The airmen made a direct attempt to bomb my ship», said Captain C. E. Roberts of the S. S. Thorpness, on January 22, two days after a bombing raid to Tarragona of fascist airmen in planes recognized as Italian.

We had just returned from the funeral of the four sailors who are known to have been killed. Three more are still missing, perhaps blown to unrecognizable bits. We were talking together on the badly damaged bridge of the ship. On the decks below a number of Labour M. P. who had attended the funeral, were examining the wreckage.

ATTACK DELIBERATE

The Captain pointed to a 28 foot Union Jack stretched across the top of the wireless room. «That flag is clearly visible to aircraft», he continued, «and the airmen must have known that they were attacking a British boat».

«I may say it was deliberate, because all three bombs were aimed at us. All hit the quayside, killing seven of my men who

were making for shelter. We had been unloading our coal in the port of Tarragona for 18 days and there have been no less than three deliberate attacks on us. Last Sunday three planes dropped bombs 200 feet from the ship and the Wednesday before that, three bombs were dropped on the quay side».

TRIBUTE PAID

The four British sailors were carried to their final resting place in the tiny British cemetery of Tarragona, amidst scenes that expressed the great sorrow and indignation of the Spanish people. The small group of British who marched in silent tribute behind the four plain coffins, could feel this deep sympathy of the people who turned out in thousands for the funeral procession. Headed by the ship's officers and crew, the Labour members of Parliament, representatives of the Spanish government and the Mayor of Tarragona, the procession was saluted by soldier and civilian.

(Continued on page 8).

C. N. T. National Plenum on Record for Antifascist United Action

The Amplified National Plenum of the C. N. T. (National Confederation of Labour) which began in Valencia on January 15, held its final session on January 25. In addition to the members of the various Local and Regional Committees some 600 delegates were present from all parts of loyalist territory. It is claimed that the C. N. T. now has 1,700,000 members in Republican Spain. The Plenum sent telegrams of greetings to the International Federation of Trade Unions, the French General Confederation of Labour and to the British Trade Unions.

It was decided to decrease the number of National Federations of Industry to 14. They are now as follows:

- Agricultural, Fishing and Food Industries.
- Metal Industries.
- Transport.
- Health Services.
- Textile Industries.
- Leather Industries.
- Building and Lumber Industries.
- Water, Gas and Electricity.
- Theatres and Cinemas.
- Banks, Insurances, etc.
- Teaching.
- Communications.
- Chemical Industries.
- Public employees, etc.

A suggestion was also made for the establishment of a Trade Union Bank jointly maintained by the C. N. T. and the U. G. T.

Before the closing of the Plenum the National Committee of the C. N. T. made the following declaration:

1. The C. N. T. ratifies the line which has been followed since July 19, 1936 with the aim of achieving unity of action between all the organisations forming the antifascist block. This unity of action should be guided by a pro-

gram worked out in common by all organisation and parties which indicating the path to be followed in order to win the war and to restore our economy, which was destroyed by the treason of the army.

In view of the difficulties of our struggle and its conviction that all energies must be united, the Plenum is in favor of once and for all abandoning profuse words and of passing to practical deeds.

2. The C. N. T. persists in its aim of attaining unity of action with the U. G. T. Unity of action must be founded on a concise and concrete program according to which both sides should be equally responsible for the carrying out of the tasks lying before them in the economic and constructive field. Such tasks lie in the province of the trade unions, which are the basic pillars of the new society.

3. The C. N. T. heartily disapproves of the systematic attacks on the legal development of the Trade Unions and the Collectives. The C. N. T. considers indispensable a Government antifascist in character, but which is absolutely divorced from the sectarianism of the various parties. This will only be achieved by the proportional representation of each political party and organisation in the Government. Only if these conditions are fulfilled does the C. N. T. consider that it is possible to hasten our advance along the path to final victory, the achievement of which it does not for one moment doubt. This will be the victory of the independence of Spain and for the general emancipation of the producers. The C. N. T. has given and will continue to apply all its energies to the task of attaining victory.

Salud, comrades at the fronts, heroic and unselfish defenders of Freedom! Salud, heroes of the rear who do not spare their efforts in the places of production! Salud, all anti-fascists, without distinction of creed!

MacPaps Under Fire

The MacPaps came up to join the Brigade after Belchite with the title of the Model Battalion. They were the first English-speaking volunteers to benefit from the new policy of intensive training. When they went into action at Fuentes de Ebro they proved the value of the new policy, if it needed proving.

Fuentes was a good all-round test for a new unit. They faced the usual pleasures —artillery, avions, mortars, grenades and the less obtrusive dangers of rifle and machine-gun fire. They went over the top, and only the barbed wire stopped them. What they took, they



then the gun would have to be moved. Whenever a new position was taken up, he, as cabo, was responsible for the final choice, and for seeing that the field of fire was sufficiently clear. In action he directed the firing.

This man experienced his stiffest half-hour when the Battalion was going into position. Trenches were shallow, communications not always continuous. He carried the barrel of the gun, crawling on his stomach. The barrel is no light weight even when you have a free choice of how you will carry it. Here and there he had to make a dash for it, risking whatever there was.

Of the many stories of bravery that could be told after every action only a few come to light, as a rule the incidents of a more spectacular nature. Sometimes the less romantic adventures involve a greater strain. The cabo tells of one comrade who spent a whole night looking for wounded men in no-man's land and bringing them in. He gave up his sleep to do it.

One night a file of men appeared, moving dimly in the dark and heading for the fascist lines. Those who were in that section of the trench grabbed their guns. One



held, digging themselves in by night.

A cabo of machine-gunners, who came out to Spain from a logging camp, gave it as his opinion that for all their training the Battalion still had much to learn. They found out a lot they didn't know while under fire. In action, he said, one discovers things about the gun which don't come home to one when training behind the line. The importance of cleaning the gun whenever there's a spare moment to do was one lesson he picked up.

When the Battalion went over, he and his group gave them covering fire. Trench mortars came back at them. Sometimes these things would show signs of getting a dangerously accurate range, and



SUPPLYING the batteries with the stuff it takes,

Graduates Pledge to Victory

(On the occasion of their graduation from the 15th. Brigade Officers Training School, English-speaking and Spanish comrades took the following pledge on January 16, 1938):

We, the graduates of the second Officers Training School, hereby pledge with all our hearts to carry high the standards of the 15th Brigade of the Spanish Army; we pledge to continue our studies in order to carry to completion the training of our units within the Spanish Regular Army; we pledge to carry into our work a crusading spirit for the improvement of our technique and the application of the military principles we have had the opportunity of studying.

We pledge an eternal fight against fascism wherever it may be found and in whatever guise it may hide; we pledge to the international working class that we will fulfill the trust they have placed in us; we pledge to the working masses of our countries, our mass organisations, that we will carry out the missions for which they sent us to Spain.

We pledge to carry out our tasks at the front in a militant and disciplined manner, to aid in the defeat of Franco and his foreign allies and thus deal a deadly and lasting blow to fascism; we pledge in the rear and at the front to bring this war to a quick and successful conclusion.

Signed:

Ivor Rae Hickman, Jack Roberts, Andrew Mitchell, Ramon Castel, Archibald Cook, J. Lyons, Thane Summers, Louis Carter, Milton Weiner, Henry Buska, Faisne Surin, Mack Coal, Morris Davies, Leo Kaufman, Joseph Hecht, Murray Nemeroff, George Watt, Albert Fanchil, William Bell, Bill Mc Chrystal, T. W. Gregory, Jack Corrigan, John Mc Grandle, Jack Reid, Joseph Vaughan, J. W. Croll, Harry Dobsen, Bert Ramero, Rubin Ryant, Robert N. Turner, James A. Gunning, Joe Latus, John Coward, Herbert S. Conner, Samuel Wren, Marion B. Massey, William Boyak, Maurice Bloom, John Rody, Hitchcock, G. Buck.

never knows. Guns can't be grabbed too quickly when something unfamiliar appears in the dark. Fortunately, someone heard an English voice. The file was a British machine-gun group looking for their battalion. When the MacPaps told them where they were and where they were going, they stepped off the skyline pretty quick.

Another man describes how he heard the fascist avions approaching for the first time, and looked round at two or three machine-guns and their crews posted near him. They can't miss a target this size, he thought. He waited, but nothing fell — which proves that he who waits doesn't get everything.

The MacPaps' early training seems to have given them a taste for more. Some smart remarks on manoeuvres went up on the machine-gun company's wall newspaper when the Brigade were last in reserve. The MacPaps wanted bigger and better realism. One contributor complained indignantly of the behaviour of a certain unit of the opposing side during the Brigade manoeuvres. This unit persisted in carrying out a flank attack after he had wiped it out.

The thirst for realism prompted

the MacPaps to suggest to the British Battalion before the manoeuvres began that they take up their positions in the dark, as they would under actual campaign conditions. The British reply was polite but firm.

REX ET IMPERATOR



Peep-bol! Anyone seen my empire lying around?

The Brigade Intendencia

The Intendencia of the 15th Brigade is a small group, less than forty men, but among them you will find a former regional president of a political party, two former prisoners of the fascists, a battalion commissar, veterans of Valencia street fighting and the July days round Madrid and a political exile from the United States. These comrades, together with the others,



DISHING out the grub from the camion at the front

bear the responsibility of feeding, clothing and outfitting the Brigade. Any morning you will find them working, some lugging sacks of rice, garbanzos, meat, bread and potatoes, some measuring out oil and wine, some distributing clothing or patiently explaining the necessity for returning even the last unmatched dirty sock for washing and reclamation. They constantly war against waste, and you might meet them at a Brigade Staff meeting still explaining. Through their arguments you can see the general economic policy of the Government. When they speak against waste you can see the tremendous growth of the People's Army and the Government's determination to clothe and feed them all.

SPARE TIME FOR STUDY

Or perhaps you might see them in a spare hour teaching each other. One comrade teaches arithmetic and higher mathematics, another teaches reading and writing, so that



FOOD prepared while travelling

today there is no one illiterate in the unit. Geography and current history are also taught. Others prepare the wall paper, which do credit to any battalion.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Twenty or more women are employed to wash, iron and repair the clothing of the men. Four shoe repairmen turning out an average of 19 repaired shoes a day compose what is known as the "servicio recuperación" which helps to save the Government a great deal.

Tobacco is purchased from the army agency and resold at cost to the various units by the Intendencia. The cigarettes and foods sent in liberal quantities from abroad are also portioned out by the Intendencia.

When the Brigade moves, and as a shock brigade it moves often, the Intendencia provides the cold rations at the starting point; it sees to it that additional quantities are supplied along the way as needed.

The Brigade canteen is of a most complete character. It supplies the comrades with practically anything they require, at a reasonable price.

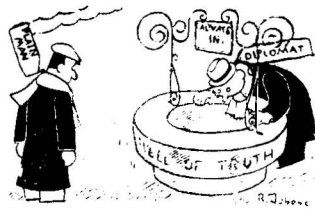
The 15th Brigade Intendencia is part of a tremendously important organization—the General Inten-



THE WATER WAGON

dencia of the People's Army. It has its roots deep in the economic and agricultural life of the Spanish people. It is a link between our Brigade and the workers of the fields and factories which we are helping to defend.

BLAME IT ON THE WEATHER



—What does she say about Spain? Sorry, old man. Can't get an answer, well's frozen over.

Jura de los graduados

(En ocasión de sus graduaciones de la Escuela de Oficiales de la 15 Brigada, Camaradas Españoles y anglo-americanos han prestado el siguiente juramento en el día 16 de enero de 1938.)

Nosotros, graduados de la segunda Escuela de Oficiales, prometemos con todo corazón llevar alto las banderas de la XV Brigada y del Ejército Español; prometemos continuar nuestros estudios para llevar a cabo la instrucción en nuestras Unidades del Ejército Español; prometemos poner en nuestro trabajo un espíritu de sacrificio para mejorar la técnica y aplicar mejor los principios militares que hemos estudiado y deseamos aprovechar.

Prometemos luchar eternamente contra el fascismo, sea donde sea y contra cualquiera apariencia que se oculte; prometemos justificar a la clase obrera internacional la confianza que tiene en nosotros; prometemos a la masa obrera de nuestro país y a las organizaciones de masas, que cumpliremos la misión para la cual nos han mandado a España.

Prometemos llevar a cabo nuestra tarea en el frente con disciplina militar, tomar parte en la derrota de Franco y sus aliados extranjeros y dar un golpe de muerte al fascismo; prometemos igualmente tanto los del frente como los de la retaguardia terminar la guerra lo más pronto posible y con el triunfo más completo.

Rafael Ortega, Valeriano Navarro, Juan Martínez, Pedro Bayona, José Torres, Angel Delgado, Emilio Sánchez, José López, Andrés Serrano, D. Caronzmack, Fulgencio Aparicio, Ernesto Figueras Pascual, Nauribatro, Rafael Andrés, Marcos Moreno Jerez, Juan Traver Caldach.

Firmado:

Rafael Ortega, Valeriano Navarro, Juan Martínez, Pedro Bayona, José Torres, Angel Delgado, Emilio Sánchez, José López, Andrés Serrano, D. Caronzmack, Fulgencio Aparicio, Ernesto Figueras Pascual, Nauribatro, Rafael Andrés, Marcos Moreno Jerez, Juan Traver Caldach.

Dombrowski Brigade Helps Peasants Gather Olive Crop

When they were resting in a small Aragon village recently, the members of the Dombrowski (Polish) International Brigade offered their services to the local peasants and volunteered to help them gather the olive crop which this season has been an extraordinarily heavy one.

In fact, precisely as a result of the heavy crop and of the fact that so many of the peasants' sons are fighting at the front, the olive crop was at one time threatened with ruin if it could not be picked before the commencement of the severe winter frosts. The action of the Dombrowski Brigade in offering their services provided the peasants with 1,000 men who in the short space of two days picked some 40 tons of olives.

This act of sacrifice on the part of the soldiers, who gave up two days of their well-earned rest to help the peasants is merely another illustration of the mutual understanding which exists between the Army and the people



in loyalist Spain. It also shows that the soldiers of the Army will, when the time comes, be the first to consolidate the establishment of the peace and to work for the building up of a new society.

Indeed it seems more than a coincidence that the olive branch is the symbol of peace.

WHAT'S IN A POSTER?

The magnificent posters of Loyalist Spain are one of its most obvious and impressive features. In a flashing combination of color, image, symbol and slogan, the posters are helping to light the way to victory. They carry their clarion messages over the length and breadth of the country. They tell, teach and inspire from the walls and windows of the cities, from telephone poles and spaces along the roads into the villages and farming regions. They reach the front itself on the walls of brigade headquarters and battalion library dugouts.

EFFECT GREAT

The influence of these posters has been tremendous. Among a people with a high percentage of illiteracy but also with a developed capacity to appreciate a true appeal to their senses, the posters have

achieved results impossible to other media. It is, of course, obvious that posters are the most common and everyday means of public announcement known to modern civilization. But the Spanish people's genius has taken it and raised it to perhaps the most brilliant height of expression and effectiveness ever reached. To those of us coming from countries where pretty posters by the million compete with each other hysterically in the claptrap of bargain days, bankruptcy sales and the latest Hollywood epic it has been a revelation to see the splendid examples recording and proclaiming the deepest fundamentals of struggle against the worst enemy of mankind.

New posters are always appearing, as new problems and situations arise. At present, for instance, the winter campaign series is most prominent. They call for contributions of clothing, blankets or money to

provide additional comfort for the People's Army. In the many millions of pesetas donated by the public to supplement the Government's issue of winter supplies, these stirring posters have played a substantial role. Gradually this series is being replaced by posters pointing out the needs of children, and already toys and shoes and warm underwear are being distributed to youngsters as a result of the opening appeals. This quick flexibility of the poster, adapting itself to the dictates of the moment, is perhaps its outstanding advantage.

TIMELY

Despite their abundance and frequent changing, certain posters have become classics of the war. They stand out in memory long after new posters have taken the best positions on display. Favorites are natural. But the really significant thing is that these perennials are those which most perfectly combine a vivid portrayal of the immediate situation, a clear solution and a dramatic call to action. Thus the double celebration in November of the twentieth anniversary of the of the Russian Revolution and the first anniversary of Madrid's defence covered Spain with an exhibition which showed not only gladness and triumph but also consciousness of the ultimate goal each represented. Likewise, the homage recently rendered to the International Brigades on their first year in action produced a set of posters showing them in various aspects but all summing up the truth, living and fighting in the heart of every International volunteer, that still "the front of Madrid is the front of the world".

LIFE IN OLD POSTERS

On the twelfth anniversary of the death of Pablo Iglesias, founder of the Socialist Party of Spain, the placards of all organizations participating in the memorial emphasized that unity of all the workers would be his slogan now.

Certain posters may be called ancient, considering the concentrated onrush of event and change since they appeared. But their fundamental truth still holds good. Standing like a monument in its unchanging lesson is the stark stabbing poster demanding "Silence in the rearguard, the enemy is listening" with its leering death's-head and crossed streaks on the mouth to keep it shut. An example that has survived almost from the

beginning of the war shows the peasant with his hoe, the mechanic with his hammer and the soldier with his bayonet, all side by side, lunging forward shoulder to shoulder in an invincible advance of unity.

Another old but still living poster shows a panic-stricken woman shielding a baby with her own body from enemy bombers overhead, while Loyalist soldiers staunchly hold the lines in the background.



The slogan is "Evacuate Madrid the better to defend it", and is as true today as before. An example of pile-driving emotional power is the appeal for aid to the refugees of the North. It shows an Asturian miner, gaunt and hard-pressed in his lonely valor, but grimly ready to hurl his dynamite.

AMONG THE FIRST

Unforgettable is the discontinued series of Fifth Regiment recruiting posters, probably the very first to appear after the war began. Calling upon men and women, they were posted throughout the land almost overnight, burning like beacons, ringing like bells. Volunteers arose everywhere in response to the call to form those pioneer shock battalions that bore the names "Leninград", "Paris Commune", "Battalion of Steel" (composed 100 % of metal workers) and others. In rallying the 70,000 Spanish fighters who quickly joined the regiment, these clarion posters did their share. The last one shows the Fifth Regiment voluntarily blending itself into the People's Army emerging from all the militia units.



THE FIRST RECRUITING poster, which was printed in large quantities and distributed throughout all cities and towns of importance in Spain

BASIC PURPOSE

Naturally the mood of most Loyalist posters is a terrific fighting spirit strength, preparation, organization, unity and more strength to carry out the tasks of the war. That all-important purpose is never forgotten. But other characteristic moods of Spain are not omitted. There is pride and warmth in those showing women taking their place in the lines of liberty. There is love and tenderness in those appealing for the welfare of orphans and little children. There is bitter and withering scorn in the satirical posters exposing rumor-mongers, speculators, ultra-leftists, café-strategists, and other annoying or dangerous enemies of the people.

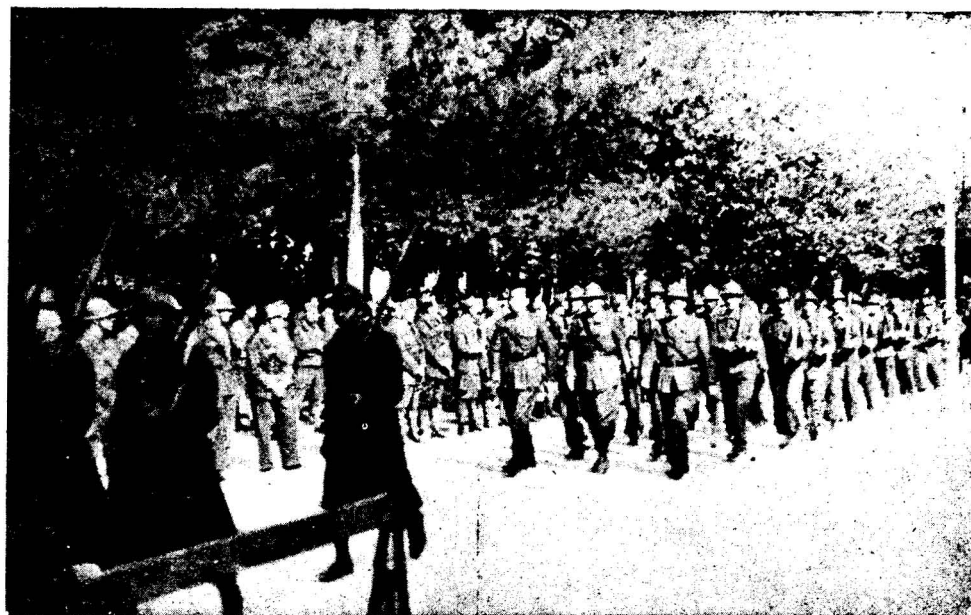
The creators of this powerful instrument of the poster deserve tribute. Organized union men, the artists, draftsmen, lithographers and printers enjoy no privileges for their responsibility. They work in cities under shell-fire and bombardment, on short rations of food and fuel, often without enough electric power for light on their drawing boards or current in the printing machinery. But they carry on their work as consistently and courageously as possible. Their stream of pictorial enlightenment



flows on without interruption.

In this great outpouring are posters representing the Government Ministries, the various political parties, the syndical organizations, many individual trade unions, the Socorro Rojo, the Friends of the Soviet Union, mass organizations and the Popular Front itself. Any and all organized opinion may deliver its message. But arguments of viewpoint are never stressed. The posters of Loyalist Spain are the symbol and record of anti-fascist unity.

Perhaps these posters are not works of art. If art, as somebody



FROM LOOSE bands of militiamen to a highly organized and technical People's Army. This is the achievement of Republican Spain today. This New Army has proven that it can inflict serious defeats on Franco's legionnaires, and that it is headed toward final victory in spite of the foreign aid lent to the Spanish fascists.

once described it, is "emotion recollected in tranquillity", they cannot be. For there is no herenity in a land struggling to preserve the fundamentals of life. The whole meaning of that struggle is brought into these posters, unifying problem and solution in one simultaneous stroke. To see is to understand; to understand is to act. That is the guiding principle. It may not produce formal art, but Spain's art is being taken care of in other ways. Nevertheless the rich traditions and

profound achievements of El Greco, Velasquez, Goya and Murillo clearly exist in these emergency expressions. The museums of vic-

torious Spain and the archives of the international working class will give these posters a place of highest honor.

"I HAVEN'T DONE ENOUGH"

One guy all the Lincoln-Washington fellows have felt better for having with them this time is Syd Levine, Machine Gun instructor for the Battalion.

Coming over with the very first group of American volunteers in December, over a year ago, Syd was one of the original Lincolners. From then on he saw action—plenty action—but one of his proudest boasts is that he brought the Company he then commanded through the tough Brunete campaign without anyone being wounded. He knows how to combine the maximum of safety of our men with the maximum of danger for the fascists (There's a Maxim for you!).

Approached several times in the past about going home, he always figured that he "hadn't done enough yet."

Such guys win wars.



MOBILIZATION of the peasants. An early poster.



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S. R. I. 555-E PLAZA ALTOZANO ALBACETE

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RAIDS ON CIVILIANS

When Franco sends out his aviation from Mallorca to the coastal cities of Republican Spain, or from inland bases to towns nearer the line, he makes no discrimination between military and civilian objectives. As a result, every raid adds a few more to the total of civilian deaths.

There are some millions of civilians at work in Republican Spain. Suppose that an air raid kills on an average 100 people. To knock off a single million at the rate of one raid a day would take 10,000 days, or something approaching thirty years. The cost, it is hardly necessary to add, would be prohibitive.

There is no justification of any sort for the steady slaughter of civilians. The average man or woman does not give way to terror unless he is very hard-pressed or has a bad conscience. The people of Republican Spain feel anything but hard-pressed after Teruel, and in place of a bad conscience they have an anger against the Spanish military caste and their foreign helpers which leaves little room for fear.

Under these circumstances it is as big an undertaking to break their spirit as to exterminate them. Wholesale butchery of civilians serves no military purpose at all. What is being done now has the effect only of increasing the anger and determination of the people who see it happen, and of bringing home to those of vaguer views precisely what the fascist rebellion stands for.

Line soldiers who are accustomed to treating fascist aircraft with military prudence would be surprised to see how the people in the rearguard cities react to their approach. They regard an air raids as a spectacle that should be watched. They vacate the streets, but they stand on porches and balconies, even on roof-tops, and point out the passing aircraft to each other as it goes over them. Not very wise perhaps, but it shows just how much they are afraid of it. Later, when the day's load of bombs has done its futile work and knocked another hundred off the total of rearguard population, the ambulances can be heard racing to the scene with sirens screaming. This is the only screaming that is heard in the streets. Then faces grow more serious, but not with fear. The workmanlike posters that tell us our first concern is to finish with Franco once and for all seem to speak with a fresh significance after that. The cities of the rear have seen and felt the war. Inevitably this affects the citizens more than any news sheet from the front line.

Madrid has been familiar with the fascist artillery for more than a year. Civilians working near the Telefonica, the tall building that offers the fascist their easiest target, watch the shells as they land and lay bets on which window will get it next. There is a story of a baker who had one of his entrances blocked by a bursting shell. He posted a notice on the pile of debris, saying "Business as usual at the other door".

Neither bombs nor shells can destroy the spirit of a people that is fighting for its liberty. History has taught this lesson often enough. Once again the fascist command shows itself entirely devoid of imagination. In killing our civilians, these men are hastening only the day their own end.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

QUEIPO DE LLANO has plenty of headaches but he seems to be looking for more. The other night he broadcast from Radio Sevilla that the Italians just couldn't take it at Guadalajara. Ah, there, Benito! Are you listening?... THE SON of the former Japanese Premier gave a lecture in New York on the military situation in China. It must have been a very authoritative lecture, for he's a captain—captain of Princeton University's golf team... EXCERPT from the statement of the British corporation that owns the famous Rio Tinto copper mine: "Since General Franco's forces occupied the mine area, there has been no labour unrest". They probably mean "rest"... COLONEL LA ROCQUE, leader of the French fascists, was well-known even as a youngster. Two of his fellow students at St. Cyr Academy testified at a recent trial that one of the sayings on the campus was "a liar like La Rocque"... Italian birth-rates are dropping so sharply that the fascist paper "La Stampa" asks "Are Italian women on strike?" Would you call it a lie-down strike?... KYOSUKA TOMADA the famous Japanese actor, was killed on the Shanghai front. He was a great comedian. It's a pity the Chinese soldiers were in no mood to appreciate his latest role... POST CARDS for Franco's army are printed with inscriptions in various languages. So are ours. The difference is that in theirs the Spanish message comes last... PROTESTANT ministers in Germany now hold religious meetings underground. If you can remember back that far, the first Christian churches were organized in the Roman catacombs... SOCIETY NOTE: Prince Paul of Greece is keeping company with the former German kaiser's granddaughter. Her name is—hold on now—Fredericka Louise Thyra Victoria Marguerite Sophie Olga Cecile Isabelle Christa of Brunswick. What would you call her for short?... SAYS the Nazi ambassador: "The German attitude towards the Far East crisis in one of non-interference". Don't mind the error. He means non-intervention. ANTHONY EDEN warned Mussolini some time ago to stop his anti-British radio propaganda in the Near East—or take the consequences. Since then the broadcasts have increased to the point where sixteen languages are used, including Arabic, Turkish, Greek, Egyptian, Syrian and several Indian dialects. So what do you think the British government has done? They've started their own radio station!... THE BORDER between Spanish and French Morocco

has been closed by fascist authorities who say they want to keep Spaniards in, but that is a mere coincidence, of course... BRAZIL, largest coffee-growing country in the world, has disposed of its "unprofitable surplus" by burning up 65 million bags weighing 132 pounds each, inside of seven years. And you guys are kicking about the coffee!... THE WAR is in China but a Japanese army building went up in flames right in Tokio—causes unknown. It's a funny thing, but the longer the front grows, the nearer it comes... PREMIER HARBURN, the little Hitler of Canada, announces "An American labor racket is exploiting Canadian workers. This is foreign intervention". Is it Henry Ford? You guessed it—he's talking about the C. I. O.... INCIDENTALLY the Teruel lightning thrust took the fascists so completely by surprise that they filled sandbags with wheat. It has been taken out, baked and put in stomachs—where it belongs... TWO CUBAN students were arrested for distributing leaflets and then disappeared. A few days later a shark was caught with the positively identified forearm of one of the students inside. It is now forbidden to fish for sharks in Havana Bay... HITLER's simple little vacation cottage in the Bavarian Alps is in the middle of eight square miles of mountainside fenced around with electrified wire eight feet high, topped by five strands of barbed wire... THE GREEK government is offering a big reward for the arrest of seven criminals. They're real criminals too. Five are elected deputies of the People's Front ticket and two are trade union officials... WHEN Mussolini appointed Marshal De Bono commander-in-chief of the Armies of Africa, he asked Il Duce "Do you want Ethiopia with the Ethiopians or without them?"... WHO SAYS the British government is ignoring war danger? Why, 25 million gas masks are already prepared for use of civilians alone!... IN COSTA RICA the business slogan is "Buy Japanese"; likewise in Honduras, while in El Salvador imports from Germany lead all others. Haven't those Central American Monroe Doctrine either?... ANOTHER merchant vessel was sunk the other day in the Mediterranean. In no case has the nationality of the submarine been identified. But there is a rumor that next to the tomb of the unknown soldier in Italy they're going to build a monument to the "unknown submarine".

MICKEY

ORGANIZATION OF THE GROUND

Every attack passes through certain general phases. These phases are generally distinguished as follows, (a) the advance in column, (b) the approach march (artillery formations), (c) advancing the attack with fire and movement, (d) the actual assault, (e) continuing the attack (the passage of the enemy's line and re-organization), (f) finally the pursuit of the organization of the ground depending upon the situation and the commander's decision.

It is the final phase that is to be discussed in this article. It is the phase that is probably the most neglected and the one, therefore, that needs the most discussion. Troops that have been in a serious action get tired out and there is a point in the last phase of the attack or pursuit when the men are no longer able to continue. At this point troops in general tend to simply stop and consider the battle over. They light cigarettes and generally relax, without any understanding that they have only accomplished the first phase of their objective. A generally acknowledged phrase, much repeated and not very well understood, is that "what soldiers gain with the bayonets they hold with the spade".

It is therefore necessary for us to emphasize that in the final phase of the attack, at that point in the attack in fact when, with our objective achieved, we either have to pursue the enemy to his utter destruction or prepare for the counter attack, we must begin immediately to consider fortifications and organization of fire. Before beginning any fortifications, certain essential factors must be clearly elaborated in a plan of action. These, in fact, should already be in the commander's mind before the original attack is begun. They are as follows:

First: send out covering detachments to give himself security.

Second: to decide upon the areas of responsibility for his subordinate units.

Third: to definitely locate his several points of resistance.

Fourth: to assign definite areas to be organized into combat posts.

Fifth: to locate his command post.

Sixth: to establish liaison with neighbouring units.

Seventh: to assign sectors of fire to subordinate units.

Eighth: to arrange his machine gun support from attached machine gun units.

Ninth: to prepare his plan to repulse any counter attack.

First of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with Military Questions Written by the Commander of the Battalion of Instruction N.º 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON

Tenth: to report to his higher commander that his plan for organization of the ground is complete.

It must be remembered by all commanders that the enemy's counter-attack should, if properly planned, come at the very moment we enter his line. It therefore becomes obvious that to organize a position with even temporary defenses requires the greatest initiative and prompt action on the part of subordinate commanders along with a thorough knowledge of the precepts outlined in this article. This in no way conflicts with the necessity for carrying the attack from objective to objective, storming the enemy's first, second and third lines of resistance in quick succession. It simply means that when the primary objective has been attained, subordinate commanders must understand the immediate necessity for re-organization to throw back any counter attack.

Certain features in the organization of the ground should be discussed; First of all the general tendency in modern armies is to organize the ground in greater depths than ever before, thus creating several lines of resistance when they have to be taken in succession and

increasing the power of resistance.

It is axiomatic, of course, that with the organization of the terrain goes the organization of fire and the use of the combined arms for this purpose. In certain instances, greater depth in the organization of terrain is necessary, and certain features of fortification should be understood. It is characteristic, for instance, of more or less stabilized warfare that:

A. when we are in close contact with the enemy,

B. when we may expect intensive artillery fire,

C. when we may expect a decisive attack from the enemy, our position will be organized in much greater depth and with a narrower frontage. By contrast, in cases where the characteristics of warfare are more open and (a) where we do not expect intensive artillery fire, (b) and where we are not in close contact with the enemy and (c) where no decision is sought, it is very probable that our positions may not be organized in such great depth and have a wider frontage.

The implications of organizing the ground are that one requires a breathing space in which to completely assimilate the new terrain

that is taken and prepare it as a jumping off place for the next leap forward. The dialectics of war demand the decisive defeat of an enemy force rather than the seizure of the terrain held by the enemy, to ensure victory. Nevertheless, it is impossible with modern armies to continuously fight a war of movement, and thus comes about the necessity for organizing the ground in defensive positions. In order to truly carry out such schemes a knowledge of defensive works is of the greatest importance. Certain elementary maxims can be laid down regarding defence. First, all fortifications must give the fullest use of our own weapons and restrict to the greatest possible extent the effectiveness of the enemy's. Thus our defence-works against artillery must (a) be in low relief, (b) be as strong as possible, (c) be well distributed, (d) in every case provide an alternative position, (e) be organized to protect against infiltrating and flanking fire while allowing for the maximum use of camouflage for our own machine guns, and so placing them as to permit them to deliver the most effective fire, preferably infiltrating or flanking fires; also, our positions for riflemen must be designed to give the fullest frontal and oblique fires while giving the greatest amount of individual protection against artillery, aviation, gas and snipers. In

(Continued on the next page)

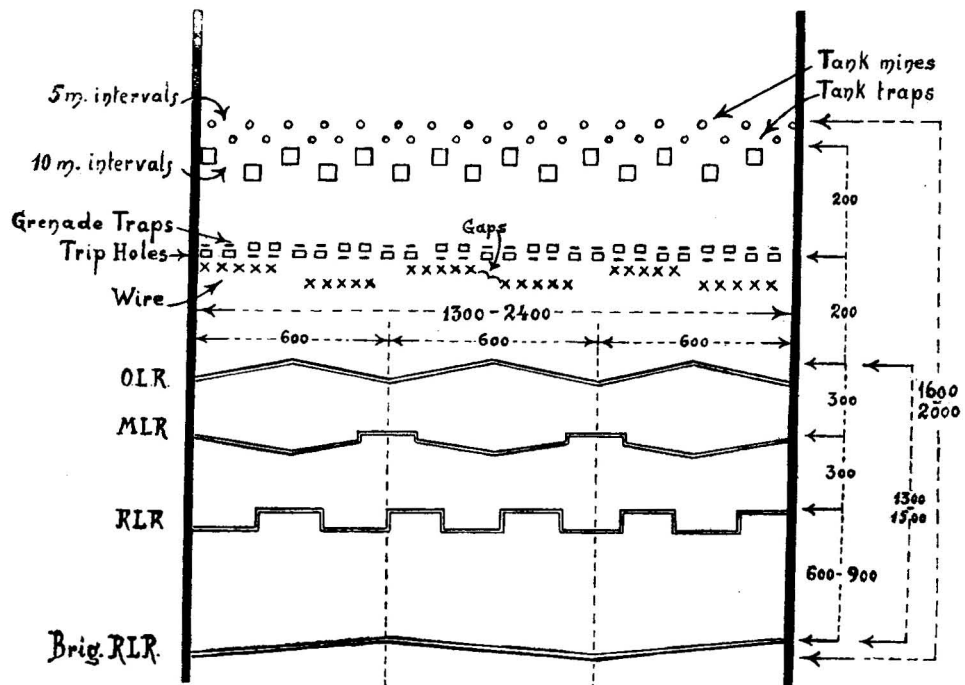


DIAGRAM of the principles involved in organizing a Battle Front

Organization of the Ground

(Continued From page 7)

addition, all positions must be so organized as to permit our free movement forward in the attack as well as complete protection in contact with our rear positions.

It is insufficient, in organizing a position, simply to organize an outpost line of resistance, main line of resistance and reserve line of resistance. It is also necessary to place obstacles before our positions to protect against both mechanical and human attacks. These include wire, grenade traps, tank traps and tank mines and also various other types of barriers which may be developed at the initiative of subordinate commanders. Some of the requirements for successful obstacles are as follows:

A. They should be constructed of material readily available.

B. They should be easily and quickly erected.

C. They must be effective barriers against all types of attack.

D. They must have a low visibility in order not to obstruct our fire.

E. They must be difficult to remove or destroy.

The diagram indicates the principles involved in organi-

zing a Battle Front. The figures indicative a wide variation. Apart from the particular necessities of the immediate situation for development in width or in depth, these variations will, of course, be much effected by the lay of the ground. Certain figures have been worked out in practice for the amount of work that may be done per man and are attached below. The standards established by these figures and diagrams however can in no case be applied to all situations. They are merely guides and indicate the possibilities that exist.

The one imperative necessity is that troops must realize the vital importance of promptly and effectively proceeding with the organizing of their immediate position when their objective has been reached. Any pause at this moment is an invitation for a successful enemy counter-attack. If such a counter-attack should be successful our forces are in a worse position than when they began the original assault. The careful infantry soldier is aware of this responsibility and learns as much about trench construction and the organization of his fire as he possibly can, thus definitely eliminating the possibility of the enemy throwing him back and re-taking the ground he has sacrificed so much effort to gain.

Kind of Soil	N.º of tools		Cubic metre per man per 8 hour day									
	Picks	Spades	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Hard. . .	2-4	1	1-3	2	3	3-7	4-3	5	5-5	6		
Medium .	1	2	2	3-3	4-4	5-5	6-4	7-4	8-2	9		
Soft. . .	1	3-4	2-6	4-5	6	7-2	8-5	9-8	11	12		

TO CARRY ON

(Continued From page 1)

«We shall carry on as British sailors», said Captain Roberts, «and it will take more than bombs to stop us doing our duty». Then he added, with intense bitterness, «We hope that whatever nation these airmen belong to will be proud of the great exploit carried out by their gallant flying men against a defenceless ship, against men employed on their lawful occasions».

What will the Government of Britain do? Round each coffin was wrapped the flag of our country. This flag should stand for international law. It was never intended to drape the victims of Italian fascism.

B. R.

THE ONLY WAY HE CAN



Francó: Admit it, Miaja, I score a victory every time I cut off your radio broadcast.



SELF - DESTROYERS

Load upon load of bomb and shell
Shakes down the brick and stone and dust,
But what does all this ruin spell
When only brick and stone are crushed?
Beneath you storm of steel the town
Shivers, and sinks slowly down,
And you believe that hearts lie deep.
With homes under the rubble heap!
Your loss is greater than your gain;
Men whose homes are here no longer
Spread the fever of their anger
Through the length and breadth of Spain.
A million hearts you have made stronger,
You have armed a million men.
What you destroy, shatter, burn,
Are not the things that in their turn
Will strike you and your cannons dumb,
Is not the spirit in whose name
We built an army, and defied
Your steel, your thunder and your flame:
These cannot die till we have died.
You understand so little. You
Have more than walls to batter through —
Men
Such as your brutish heroes never knew
The way to overcome

M. TOMALIN

NEW CITY COUNCIL FORMED IN TERUEL

The new Teruel City Council was officially constituted on January 17, 1938. Angel Sánchez, who is chairman of the Provincial Socialist Federation, was elected Mayor of Teruel. Previous to the rebellion Sánchez was vice-chairman of the Provincial Deputation. His wife and his daughter were shot by the fascists.

ON OUR WAY

Francó, according to the latest dug out dope, has put his two centimos into the discussion of proposals for the withdrawal of foreign troops in Spain. He seems to have suggested that he would send 1,000 of his Italian, German and Moorish soldiers back home if 5,000 volunteers fighting on the Loyalist side were withdrawn.

He awaits our answer so we've decided to take it to him in Burgos. Just wait, Franco, old boy.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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Barcelona, February 12 - 1938

PREMIER NEGRIN SPEAKS TO THE CORTES SAYS REPUBLICAN VICTORY CERTAIN

MOVE WAS NECESSARY



DR. JUAN NEGRIN

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution the Cortes of the Republic met on February 1, 1938. The assembly which had been summoned and later postponed, took place in Montserrat instead of in the Catalan Parliament so as to prevent the fascist air force from taking this as an excuse to carry out another bombing raid on the civilian population of Barcelona.

NEGRIN SPEAKS

Dr. Juan Negrín, Prime Minister, made the principal speech at the opening of the Cortes. «The Government», he began, «has summoned a meeting of the Cortes in order to comply not only with a constitutional precept, but also in accordance with democratic principles in order to be in close contact with the people through parliament, and to render a full account regarding the use the Government has made of the full powers granted by the Cortes last October.»

After speaking of the change in the Ministry of Justice, he said: «Ever since this Government was constituted it had the intention of moving to Barcelona. This was deemed convenient for various reasons bearing on domestic and international policy. They are so clear that it is not necessary to create the conditions which would make it possible. It was indispensable in the first place to give to the Army of the East the regular formation, consistency, discipline and the necessary command. It was also necessary for the Government to recover the political command of the zone occupied in Aragon, which was achieved in spite of all the prophecies to the contrary, without the slightest trouble and with highly satisfactory results. In the second place we wished to have the assurance that the fronts of our Army had already such stability and firmness that our plans would be carried out without fear of any mishap and that we could effect the transfer without causing dangerous alarm in our rear. So firm was our conviction in the strength of our fronts that in spite of the unfortunate happening in the North, we insisted on carrying out our decision.»

REPRISALS

Sr. Negrín explained that the crimes committed by the fascists in bombing cities in the rear without any military objective, causing irreparable havoc, slaughtering with impunity defenceless citizens, women and children have deserved the condemnation of the whole world. «But the condemnation of the whole world», he said, «is not sufficient to make them stop in their ferocious be-

havior, which is a clear demonstration of their impotence. Several times the Minister of National Defence has announced his readiness to renounce any warlike action against the towns of the rear on a basis of a guaranteed reciprocity. Until this is achieved — painful as it may be — the Government declares that it will be compelled to answer enemy aggressions by similar methods. It will answer with appropriate measures all the crimes of those who, not satisfied with having been traitors to their own country, handing it over to the greed of foreign imperialist powers prefer in their mad impotence to destroy our country rather than deliver up their banners to the Republic.»

NO COMPROMISE

The Prime Minister emphasised that the war is the principal pre-occupation and that it cannot be finished except by the victory and unconditional triumph of the cause of the people and the legitimate Government of Spain. He added: «Our peace will not be a peace of pacts, arrangements and compromises. We said that when the prospects of triumph were less promising. We reiterate it now when even the most sceptic among the neutral countries considers it possible and probable.»

FINANCIAL FRONT

In dealing with financial matters, he said that the attention of the Government has always been on the alert in order to obtain the greatest possible efficiency and production in view of the large expenditure incurred by the war. «A series of concrete measures has been begun which will give our banking apparatus an elasticity, a perfection, and a guarantee which it lacked when

the war began and which will make a useful instrument for economic and political work in the future. Uniform banking legislation and a unified administration are indispensable in order to carry this work out fully. And the Government believes that the time for undertaking this work has arrived.»

ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

The Prime Minister paid high tribute to the Republican Army. «The People's Army which timidly showed itself first in La Granja in an attempt to help Bilbao, and then with more success, but still with insufficient fortune, again made its appearance in Brunete, this time with the purpose of helping Santander, the People's Army. I repeat, proved its importance for the first time in Belchite and finally gave proof of its strength and capacity in Teruel.»

PRAISE U. S. S. R. AND MEXICO

Under the question of foreign affairs, Dr. Negrín stated: «Two great countries showed and have continued to show in a singular and outstanding manner their affection and friendship towards Spain: I refer to Mexico and the Soviet Union. I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to express gratitude to them, for although it has been done before. I do not wish to let this occasion escape without repeating our thanks.» Among his closing words the Prime Minister declared: «Up to a short time ago our days were full of grief. They were hopeless days, very bitter days. This era has past. And we are destined — you may be sure of that — to stand up holding the pennant of victory, a victory which we shall use generously, as the cause which we defend demands.»

FEBRUARY DAYS OF 1934 IN FRANCE

By

MAURICE LAMPE

(Base Commissar of War of the International Brigades)

France, Austria, Spain. Three very different countries. Yet the month of February will be written in letters of bronze in the history of all three, and, as a result, in the history of the progressive movement of the peoples of the whole world.

Here we shall only speak of February in France in the year 1934. Others can write for Austria and Spain.

In order to grasp the full importance of what we now refer to as «the February days of 1934», we must bear in mind that 1933 had closed in a disturbed and tense atmosphere, dominated by the vicious propaganda of the reactionary and fascist forces who were exploiting the masses' legitimate discontent and their sense of outrage at the scandalous disclosures in the affair of that powerful and shady banker Stavisky.

REACTION PLOTS

The paradox was that those leaders of the fascist organisations were shouting «Catch the thieves!» all the louder because it was to their advantage to save the numerous friends of theirs who were compromised in that unprecedented scandal.

They held more and more demonstrations in Paris, where the support of a police chief was already entirely theirs. They were

trying to create an atmosphere favorable to their designs. In secret councils at that time preparations were being made to overthrow the Republic and to inaugurate the vile dictatorship of fascism.

The day was fixed. February 6th. Starting from different points in Paris the fascist cohorts were to converge, according to the prearranged plan, at the Place de la Concorde, drawing in their wake a deluded multitude of small middle-class people. It was to be the day for the final assault against the Republic.

Everything was well prepared. Support had been won in the police force, the Army, etc. This was not by any means the least important card up the fascists' sleeves.

None the less there was one thing which they had not taken into account — the people of Paris.

The people of Paris... that people with its tradition of struggle for liberty — that people which is so sensitive to political developments — was able from the very first minute to detect the real intentions of those self-styled

defenders of order and economy.

The people of Paris and the glorious red suburbs achieved unity of action and, at the call of the French Communist Party, they came out on to the streets to challenge and defeat the forces of fascism, which were taken unawares by this unforeseen counter-attack.



It would take too long to tell the story of that evening of February 6th now; but one thing we should remember — if certain fascist columns did not reach their objective (such as that, for instance, which started from the Hôtel de Ville) this was due more to the people's counter-offensive than to the action of the police, who, despite their new chief, still remained under the influence of fascist police officers, and in many cases displayed, to say the least, a lack of decision.

GOVERNMENT UNDESIRABLE

The fascists lost the day. But Daladier's Government, which had the duty of punishing the authors of these bloody events, gave up the struggle, and was followed by a Government under the leadership of the late M. Doumergue. The French people immediately regarded this Government as being in the nature of a provocation. In actual fact its composition left no room for doubt as to its intentions. It was a Government of aid for the reactionary forces and of struggle against the workers.

It was warmly applauded by every fascist in France. But the seriousness of the situation did not escape the notice of the French people in general and of the people in Paris in particular.

On that glorious day, February 9th, for five hours, over a third of the capital, the people fought an heroic battle against fascism.

Ten of our comrades fell victims to the assassins in the pay of the Two Hundred Families.

They gave their lives generously but not vainly. Their sacrifice ensured the success of the great general strike which spread over the whole country on February 12th.

It was their sacrifice also which unleashed the energy of the masses; and for months the fascists could not hold a single meeting without the workers making them understand that France was not ripe for their theories of hatred and social retrogression.

VICTORY THRU UNITY

Moreover, the February days and their heroism and sacrifice resulted in the question of unity being raised in an irresistible way, despite the obstacles and difficulties. It is to the heroes of those days that we can attribute the achievements in the France of today — a united trade union movement, unity of action, the People's Front, and — in the near future, we are convinced — the United Workers' Party.

Many of the comrades who will read these lines have lived through all those events and played a brave part in them. They should know that if fascism has not triumphed in our lovely land of France, and on the contrary has only met with defeat, then this is only due to them and to their brothers in the struggle. In addition they should know — and do know — that what the enemy has been unable to do from within the country he is trying to do from abroad.

That is why they have come to Spain to fight on the fronts of Freedom, to play their part and their knowledge and their lives, not only for the victory of the cause of the heroic people in Republican and Democratic Spain, but also so that the De la Rocques and Doriot's in France may no longer be in a position to do harm.

We are convinced that the February days — the first victory of the forces of progress and order in France — proved, together with the devotion and heroism of all, their ultimate success in final victory in Spain and throughout the whole world.



A YEAR OF BATTLE FOR DEMOCRACY

On the occasion of the Anniversary of the XVth. International Brigade, we salute the brave Spanish People for their significant victories over the triple Italian, German and Franco Fascist alliance, with the feeling of certainty that final triumph for the Republic will be won.

Their splendid example of struggle is an inspiration to the rest of the world to hold high the Banner of Peace and Freedom from Fascist aggressions.



DAVE DORAN
Brigade Political Commissar



LIUTENANT-COLONEL COPIC
Commander the XV Brigade throughout the entire year

The second year of its battles will find the XVth International Brigade welded even more firmly to the interests of Democracy and World Peace, even more disciplined and strong in the finish fight alongside the Loyal Spanish People against the barbarous invasion of World Fascism.

**LONG LIVE THE
PEOPLE'S ARMY!**



ROBERT H. MERRIMAN
First Commander of the Lincoln Battalion in its February actions, who is now Brigade Chief of Staff



**PART OF THE FIRST
COMPANY OF THE
LINCOLN BATTALION
AT JARAMA, AMONG
THIS GROUP ARE AME-
RICAN, CANADIAN,
IRISH AND SPANISH
COMRADES**



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE BARCELONA COMMISSARIAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

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VOL. II — No. 5

BARCELONA

FEBRUARY 12 — 1938

SALUD!

February 12, 1938. The XV Brigade celebrates the first anniversary of its baptism of fire. Twelve months ago today its Battalions were strung out on the hills overlooking the Jarama valley, meeting and beating the most formidable of all fascist offensives hitherto attempted on Madrid.

Hastily organised, insufficiently trained, inadequately armed, the XV Brigade nevertheless held the lines. In mid-June it was still there in the hills — four months on end, under fire — but the fascists did not pass!

Jarama is already history. So is Brunete where, after just two weeks' rest, the XV Brigade went again in action in the great July offensive of the Spanish People's Army.

Villanueva de la Cañada, Quijorna, Pardillo, Villafranca del Castillo, the Heights of Romanillos are names added to the battle-honors of the Brigade. Through a month of terrific fighting, on a narrow sector in which the fascists massed the greatest concentration of aircraft and artillery ever seen in this war, the Brigade upholds its proud traditions, and adds to its glorious record.

Again just two weeks' rest, and the XV Brigade is on the Aragón-Front with the Army of the East. Quinto, Cerro de Purburell, Mediana, Belchite and Fuentes de Ebro — from north of Huesca to south of Zaragoza — the XV Brigade fights and wins half a dozen battles, in as many weeks.

Another brief rest and the Brigade is again called to battle. Thanks to the unselfish service of it and other International Brigades throughout 1937, opportunity has been given to organise new armies. So, it is all-Spanish Brigades that smash their way through the forts of Teruel. The XV Brigade is in reserve while their Spanish comrades prove that once given the opportunity to train they are second to none as first-line troops.

So, on the eve of the anniversary of its first battles, the XV Brigade is once more in action «somewhere in Spain».

In the line or out of it, the Brigade celebrates that historic anniversary.

A year of almost continuous front-line service, including four major campaigns: this is the proud record of the XV Brigade.

But, still led by Lieut-Col. Copic, its ranks leavened with the veterans of the first Jarama battles, the Brigade preserves its continuity, and maintains its record. Keeping faith with the comrades who have given their lives in this year of war, it pledges itself anew to be worthy of the democracies in which it has its origin, and to fight on until fascism is defeated and human liberty and progress be assured to the peoples of this earth.

IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Franco has a lot of trouble in his life. What with a bunch of bossy foreigners trying to run his war for him, and an intransigent civil population refusing to recognise him as their saviour, and a Republican Army that oughtn't to exist at all taking an unfair advantage over him at Teruel, it is no wonder he's suffering from a pain in the neck. His neck must be as sore as hell. When, on top of all the trouble a man has, his own little Chosen People turn round and kick him, that's just heartbreaking. It's no comfort to say one doesn't get kicked in the neck. Wherever one does get kicked, it hurts.

The Requetes up to now were Franco's pets. He was one of them. This is the bunch of true-blues who believe in the Divine Right of Possession. Compared with them, the Falangists are a vulgar crowd of self-made social climbers, some of whom are suspected of having derived from the race of sub-men known as the working class, who in their turn are descended from the apes. (The Requetes enjoy the aristocrats' privilege of having descended from Adam). Strictly speaking, true-blues don't shake hands with the offspring of sub-ancestors, but nowadays they have to let their principles go. It's one of war's little hardships.

The Falangists may not be perfect gentlemen, but at least they are Spaniards. When the gentry asked a few friends from Germany and Italy to their party, they expected their guests to show a decent respect for the Divine Right of Possession.

As a matter of fact they did, but owing to some mistake they thought the Divine Right was theirs. By this time so many foreigners had gatecrashed the party that it was

impossible to chuck them out. They proceeded to take over the war, lock, stock and barrel, to say nothing of limber, wing and caterpillar-whatsisname.

Light will dawn where night is thickest. One thing leads to another, and if you 80 putting a couple of twos together for eighteen months, you may eventually discover that they make four. It occurred to the bright boys of the class that the situation was nothing less than a foreign invasion. Some of them — hardly souls! — went further than this. They deduced that as the "Reds" had been fighting these foreigners since the beginning of the war, they very nearly qualified for the title of patriots.

So what? So a lot of loud laughter. If the Requetes carry on this way, they are going to cook everybody's goose. Reports reveal that they have already been making a bit of whoopee in certain cities behind the fascist lines.

We hear that Franco added a poignant postscript to the Christmas greetings he sent to Benito.

"Send another 100,000 men" he wrote "or I'm sunk". He may not have used those words, but he meant just that, and the figures are his very own. A new six figure gate crash is going to get up the nose of the Chosen People.

Franco has a way of sending his soldiers over the top with as many machine-guns behind them as in front of them. It might occur to the bright boys of the class that the compliment could be returned. It would be possible to demonstrate to the General a handy destination for his new 100,000 with the muzzle of a light automatic.

So here's to the trouble in their rear,



REPUBLICAN SOLDIERS — moments before being shot by the fascists for the sole crime of defending their country against foreign invaders

Como atiende la República a los refugiados de guerra

La labor del Ministerio de Trabajo y Asistencia Social

Uno de los más tristes y duros aspectos de la guerra es el referente a la asistencia y atención de los evacuados, esas víctimas de la agresión traidora que, después de perder todos sus bienes y, a veces, tras horribles tragedias en que han visto morir a sus deudos, se encuentran en el destierro, sin casa, sin hogar, sin tener a su lado seres queridos que los atiendan, que les cuiden y a quienes ellos puedan atender y cuidar. Toda la tragedia de la guerra está en esos grupos de seres errantes que van buscando un cobijo, aturridos aún por el horror de la agresión, y para quienes toda solicitud es poca.

Atendiendo a este deber, el Gobierno de la República se ha afanado siempre en procurar a los refugiados las máximas posibilidades de bienestar y de seguridad. El Ministerio de Trabajo y Asistencia Social, para resolver este problema, creó una Secretaría General de Evacuación y Refugiados de Guerra, cuyas oficinas, actúan con la máxima rapidez.

—¿Cuántos evacuados han sido refugiados hasta la fecha? —hemos preguntado.

—Más de dos millones y medio. Todos ellos habían quedado sin recursos, en la más completa miseria. A esta oleada humana hay que añadir siempre algunos cientos y, a veces, miles más. Constantemente llegan evacuados a los lugares donde hay refugios. De éstos se han creado muchos en las diferentes capitales de las provincias del territorio leal. También se han creado Oficinas de Etapa, dependientes de la Secretaría General y que siguen las instrucciones de ésta.

—¿Qué otros servicios existen para este objeto?

—Merecen citarse dos refugios para embarazadas, uno en Vélez Rubio y otro en Fuente-podrida. Este último, que ha alcanzado una organización perfecta, está dotado de todos los elementos de la técnica moderna. Las mujeres están en estos refugios cuatro meses, dos antes y dos después de dar a luz. Cuando tienen más hijos pequeños, pueden tenerlos a su lado en el Refugio durante todo ese

tiempo y allí son debidamente atendidos.

—Uno de los problemas de la evacuación consiste en poder dar informes a las familias de las personas refugiadas. ¿Cómo se atiende a esta necesidad?

—Se ha establecido un Fichero Central, en el cual hay ya fichas de más de un millón de refugiados. Diariamente se contestan por esta oficina centenares de cartas, en las que se informa sobre el paradero de los refugiados. También se lleva un fichero especial de personas cuyo paradero se ignora de momento. De este modo, apenas aparece, se puede informar a las familias o a las personas que se interesen.

—¿Qué criterio sustenta el Ministerio sobre la asistencia infantil?

—Cree que debe sustituirse el régimen de asilados por el familiar. Los resultados observados hasta ahora en los niños, sometidos a este régimen no pueden ser mejores. Dos mil niños hay en Bélgica colocados entre familias y todos se encuentran perfectamente. El Ministerio aspira a sustituir el régimen, más frío, de refugiados por este otro, debidamente vigilado por el Estado y que crea alrededor de los pequeños un ambiente familiar. Las familias que acojan a estos niños percibirán un subsidio correspondiente a la edad y necesidades del niño huérfano. Un sis-

Necesidad de una labor de capacitación entre los camaradas reclutas

Una de las labores más eficaces que debe llevar a cabo el Comisariado y que redundaría en beneficio de la causa antifascista es la labor de capacitación entre los compañeros reclutas.

España, país atrasado en todos los órdenes debido a los regímenes reaccionarios, más bien feudales, que hemos padecido hasta hace poco y que eran los primeros interesados en sostener esta ignorancia, el trabajo de educación social, en un vasto sentido general, es primordial, de necesidad ineludible entre las masas campesinas que se han incorporado al Ejército Popular si queremos que este Ejército sea moralmente, lo suficiente fuerte para sostener esta lucha titánica contra el conglomerado fascista de todos los países y que pasara a la Historia como una de las páginas más brillantes de la Humanidad en su lucha contra ella misma para superarse y proseguir su camino de perfección.

Hay infinidad de camaradas incorporados que tienen un sentido vago impreciso, de lo que significa nuestra guerra, es decir, del valor profundamente emancipador que representa, de la importancia grandiosa de nuestra lucha, que no es más que una guerra de clases, para el porvenir próximo y futuro de la clase obrera y de las masas campesinas de Iberia e incluso del mundo entero.

No es suficiente, con ser mucho, la meritoria labor del Comisariado para suprimir el analfabetismo de nuestro Ejército. Es necesario dar cursos de educación social, tanto sindical como política; de economía política; de Historia del Socialismo con bases sólidas, no meros discursos de tribuna. Es necesario explicar lo que es el fascismo, las razones que han motivado su aparición sangrienta en el Mundo, las fuerzas sociales que lo han alimentado y lo sostienen. Es necesario enseñar la estrategia y la táctica que debemos llevar a cabo para exterminarlo en sus mismas raíces.

Posesionado con estas armas seguras, además de las materiales, nuestro Ejército será invencible, será disciplinado, pero con una disciplina consciente que le saldrá de sí mismo. Será heroico porque tendrá el mismo espíritu que el Ejército francés de la gran Revolución que el Ejército Ruso de la guerra civil. Y le cabrá a los españoles la gloria inmortal de asestar un golpe de muerte al fascismo internacional, y como consecuencia, a la civilización de la plus-valía e iniciar una nueva etapa en la Historia de la Humanidad.

tema de inspección procurará que en nada se descuide la educación del niño y su estado de salud, ejerciéndose una verdadera tutela que asegure la eficacia del sistema. El régimen familiar se hará extensivo a los niños huérfanos y sin familia y a aque-

llos otros que han sido arrojados a las Casas Cunas o abandonados por sus padres. Este régimen nos parece más humanitario y, desde luego, se tratará de vencer todas las dificultades y obstáculos que pueda presentar su implantación.

RINCON DE LA HIGIENE

CORNER OF HYGIENE

GUERRA A LOS PIOJOS

WAR ON LICE

Uno de los mayores aliados de Franco es el piojo que puede sembrar entre nosotros enfermedades, epidemias, la muerte.

¡Desechad los piojos con la limpieza! ¡Lavaos, limpiad vuestras ropas!



One of Franco's greatest allies is the louse, which can disseminate among us diseases, epidemics, and death.

Destroy lice with cleanliness! Wash and clean your clothes!

KEEP 'EM ROLLING

The work of the Transport units of the Republican Army is apt to be taken for granted, especially by volunteers who come from highly mechanised countries. It is hardly necessary, however, to point out the vital importance of an efficiently-run transport service to campaigning troops. We all know how much transport means, especially during an attack. Few, however, are fully aware of the problems confronting this branch of the service. We speak bitterly of the embargo that prevents us from buying arms; rarely do we take into consideration that due to this policy we are being denied ways and we have. It means that certain means of carrying what supplies essential parts are rarely, if ever, to be found.

PARTS HARD TO GET

War-time conditions in Spain place a severe strain on all vehicles in use, and increase the need for an adequate supply of spare parts. Apart from the difficulty of finding the parts there is also the problem of distributing them to places where they are needed. The following is a typical case. An officer sent his car to the Brigade Auto-Park one morning during an offensive. It needed lights—nothing more; but the job was urgent. In a New York garage it would have involved 30 minutes work. When the officer arrived for his car that afternoon, it took a bit of explanation to show why the work had not been done. Imagine,—impossible to get a little thing like a bulb! There have been instances when a three-ton truck has been held up for one small bolt that costs no more than a nickel at home.

Due to rough roads, the trucks are severely punished every day. Broken springs are not rare, and since it is practically impossible

to obtain new ones, we have a blacksmith whose sole function is to manufacture and repair springs. Our tires rarely wear down to the last ply. The poor roads, especially the crudely improvised tracks at the front, cut our tires to pieces, and many have to be discarded at a premature age. Consequently the tire problem is one of great importance, and the supply must at frequent intervals be augmented—if we are fortunate enough to find the tires.

FROM BULLY BEEF CANS

It has been said that necessity is the mother of invention, and we of the XV Brigade are proud of our achievements in overcoming obstacles. Due either to thoughtless playing on the part of youngsters or to direct sabotage, many vehicles lose their tank caps. To leave the tank open means to lose precious gasoline and let in the dust that flies up from the dry roads. We have had to manufacture many gas caps from old cans of bully beef—and good caps they are. Many of us looked twice the first time we saw a truck or car with its gas tank on the fender or roof of the cab. It is a common sight now. The reason is that new fuel pumps are not available, and the only way of solving the problem is to use the force of gravity instead. Every chofer knows how valuable an empty packet of Luckies can be—sometimes even more valuable than when full. We make light fuses from the tin foil.

A piece of shrapnel from an aerial bomb that landed on one of our garages disabled a new ambulance, passing thru the engine block. Seemingly the damage was irreparable. Our chief mechanic considered an ambulance too important to be so lightly discarded,

so he went to work on it. The net result is that the ambulance is as good today as it was when it left New York. The solution was found by welding a piece from an old trench spade. I think, however, that the height of resourcefulness was shown by the chofer who used an appliance made of rubber in place of a missing accelerator spring.

British and Americans, accustomed to a mechanised environment, were recognised from the first as being useful assets to the transport services. Mechanics were put to work in the various shops, and others who had been accustomed to driving for many years back home were sent out as chofers. They came under the organisation of the Auto-Park at the International base.

ON ALL FRONTS

From this base the various units are sent to the fronts, or to the sub-bases, of which there are several. Many of the field hospital and ambulance units were formed here before they left for line service. The famous Regiment de Tren was organised from the same center. This is an unusual type of unit. It is part and parcel of the 5th Army Corps and its services are manifold. Unlike the other units it has no fixed assignment. It is composed of squadrons whose services are temporarily lent to various units needing additional trucks for a limited amount of time. The squadrons or smaller sections operate on all fronts, especially during an attack, when the need for transport is greater.

The base supplies the various Brigades with mechanics and chofers. Attention is paid to language groupings for the sake of better efficiency; but though the majority of English-speaking transport men are attached to the XV Brigade Auto-Park, others are scattered over all the mobile units in Spain.

Every driver soon found that owing to road and other conditions he had to be prepared to carry out minor repairs himself at a moment's notice. Outstandingly, his greatest grief was his carburettor. The poor grade of gas and the dusty atmosphere frequently fouled his fuel lines. This heartache was soon recog-



THE BRIGADE Sound-Truck.

nised, and it was the Americans who first organised classes of instruction to drivers in first aid to their cars. Results were immediately apparent in the marked decrease of vehicles brought in for serious repair.

The chofer had also to learn what different measures of caution to take in times of artillery or aerial bombardment: how to behave in the front lines: the principles of camouflage. He had to become accustomed to driving on dark nights with little or no lights.

With the exception of Brunete, the transport men have not had to face the same dangers as the fighting units. They live in a greater degree of comfort, travel everywhere, sleep dry and learn much. On the other hand they have no rest periods. We found that we never worked so hard as when the Brigade was at rest. The chofer is on call 24 hours of the day, and is subjected to a severe physical strain. At one time we reported 18 out of 70 men in hospital, only two of whom had been wounded.

During the attack on Belchite the Auto-Park was right there in the middle of it, looking for what there was to be found. We rolled out with several highpowered beauties. They needed quite a bit of work, but not even a well-directed shell from our Anti-Tank Battery that found its mark in the cab of a 5-ton truck was enough to discourage us. Today our fascist booty is the pride of the fleet.

The problems that meet us are manifold, but in spite of all the Auto-Park is making its contribution to an early and decisive victory. «Keep 'em rolling»—that is our motto.

HY CHESLER



EVACUATING BELCHITE CIVILIANS after the capture of the town.

DEFENCE AGAINST AVION

The problem of the defence against avion, for troops on the move, is one that has received considerable study from all the general staffs. It was brought about by ground strafing and the bombing of troops on the move during the Great War; also by the use of gas in the form of

Second of a Series of Five Articles Dealing with Military Questions, by the Commander of the Battalion of Instruction N.° 15

MAJOR ALLAN JOHNSON



MACHINE GUN post to meet enemy aviation.

right and left, odd men to the right, even men to the left. Odd men immediately commence fire in the following manner: All squads No. 1 take a lead ahead of the avion to equal the length of the avion. Squads No. 2 take 2 leads ahead of the plane. Squads No. 3 take 3 leads ahead. For machine gun companies, the first section takes one lead, the second two and so forth.

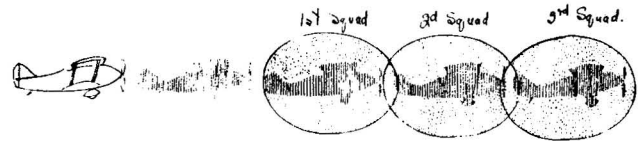
Sights are not changed and the dispersion is taken into consideration, creating for a rifle company, cones of fire in each company of between 150 and 700

rounds in each cone. By test with silk envelopes towed by aeroplanes at a height of 1000 metres, as much as 25 % of hits have been registered, indicating the possibility of bringing down avion in this manner, or at least of driving avion away from troops on the move.

thod will secure for troops on the move, troops who are well disciplined in this tactic, safety and security from avion attack.

For troops in entrenchments the same principle of taking leads may be used for fire by all small arms weapons. Machine guns may be mounted upon special mounts or special dug-outs (see illustrations). This method should give a 300 degree arc of fire with an angle of elevation of at least 45 degrees.

The principle factor to be re-



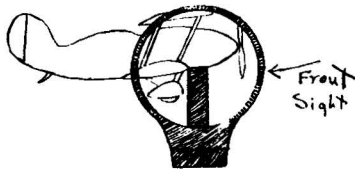
Infantry anti-avion fire

spray against such troops. In order for Avion to successfully bomb troops on the move, to ground straf or to gas by spray, Avion must descend within 1000 metres of the ground surface. Therefore, certain methods of defence have been developed.

A company in column. On the approach of avion, all squads No. 1 deploy to the right in combat formation. All squads No. 3 deploy to the left in the same formation. Squads No. 2 deploy



Gun mount and trench



Range roughly within 1000 meters



Range too Great

The method of discovering whether avion are within range or not is as follows:

The front sight is set upon the body of the aeroplane, and if its entire length comes within the sight, the plane is over 1000 metres away and effective shooting, except by machine gun, is impossible. If one half of the plane shows within the front sight, or less, the plane is within range. The use of this me-

membered in dealing with aviation is that this war has proved the inefficacy of aviation to do practical damage to troops in deployed formation. However, it has had a definite moral effect upon our troops, due to our inexperience and because we have made no attempt to fight back. If we undertake to fire in a methodical, systematic and disciplined manner, in the way outlined above, we may rest assured that avion will not give us much trouble and our success in bringing down enemy air-craft will astonish, not only them, but ourselves. The principle factor involved is, where to fire, and the manner in which such fire is delivered. If we do not fire at all, it is obvious that the enemy is perfectly safe and can take advantage of our docility. But if we create for him clouds of lead into which he is inevitably bound to run, after his first or second experience, should he not be brought down, he will avoid like poison close proximity to troops on the ground.

TROUBLE FOR MOOCHO PINTER

By Andy



To hell with cleaning out the gun!



Potting around is lots of fun.



Let 'em have it! Here they come!



JAMMED!...
(Trouble for Moocho Pinter).

LETTERS FROM HOME

Franco Newsmen Feed World Press with Teruel Lies

Dear John:

You have probably heard the story of vicious reporting by the Cap press in the Teruel engagements. We were all rejoicing when word came that the Government forces took Teruel. Then we read that Franco started his counter offensive. For three days we were all on pins and needles reading accounts of how the rebel troops were pounding hell out of the Loyalists — how the International Brigades had moved up and were being shot to pieces — how the fascists finally entered the town and captured countless stores of war materials from the Loyalists. All this mind you in every capitalist sheet in the country.

Then finally Mathews of the New York Times went to Teruel and reported that the rebels had never seriously threatened the place — had never so much as gotten close to the town. We have know of vicious reporting coming through Hendaye before, but that bit on Teruel capped everything else. Generally speaking I should say that most of the news of Spain being printed here is issued by Franco's headquarters. The by-line is almost invariably Hendaye and only occasionally, as a supplementary item, Madrid or Valencia.

You guys, as well as us I guess, are a funny lot of dopes it seems. Your letters deal a lot with the U. S. A. when we here want to hear of Spain. And I suppose ours deal too much with Spain and not enough with U. S. A. happenings.

Fraternally, Leif.

**Reforcemos cada vez
más los lazos de la
solidaridad y de la
fraternidad entre to-
dos los combatientes
de varias nacionali-
dades**

Natives of South Africa Fight Against Oppression

Dear Comrade Sam:

In a sketchy way I shall try to give you a few ideas of what is happening here. The forces of reaction have come down more severely than ever on the oppressed native people. The police terror on the Reef is dreadful. People whose passes are not in order spend their free time crouching under beds in their own rooms, for fear of the police. There is much talk of the return of colonies to Germany and of the transfer of the Protectorates to the Union.

There is also the awakening of the people and the sharpening of the struggle. There have been numerous expressions of spontaneous militancy among our native people. In Vereeniging, there was a riot protesting the police raids. Needless to say, this was followed by an outburst of the worst anti-native feeling among the most reactionary and backward sections of the white population. There were even threats made by the reactionaries against the lawyers who defended the natives in court.

In Hardings and in Natal, there were organised attacks against tax-collectors. There were numerous strikes in Durban. In short the people are working up.

Greetings from South African comrades to you and to our brave Spanish comrades, and to the comrades of the International Brigades.

Fraternally yours,
G. S.

British Miner Would Like To Correspond

Brother Editor:

A friend in Mexico has sent me a copy of the «Volunteer For Liberty». This is the first copy I have seen; needless to say I found it very interesting. The copy I have is November 15, in which there is a really splendid poem by Langston Hughes. The article «Madrid Celebrates Double Anniversary» I have already read five times.

I wonder if General O'Duffy has read the article on the Irishmen in the Brigade? What a smack in the eye for him!

On Xmas Eve we had a pit-gate collection here that realised 6 pounds. Would you believe that we had to have police permission for this?

I would like to correspond with one of our boys. Can you put me in touch with one? I will send cigs and newspapers to him.

On November 26, I wrote to Frank Stout an American in the Brigades. Is it possible for you to find out and let me know why he hasn't replied?

Yours fraternally, G. W. Holloway.

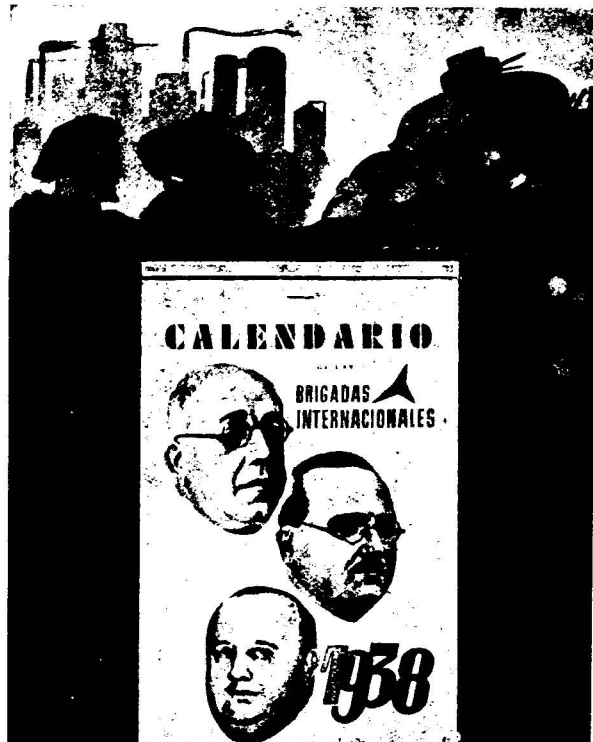
(Ed. Note: Anyone who wishes to correspond with friend Holloway, please write to the «Volunteer» and we shall send you his address.)

COMISARIOS DE GUERRA EN LAS BRIGADAS INTERNACIONALES CITADOS AL ORDEN DEL DIA POR EL COMISARIO GENERAL DE GUERRA

En el orden del día n.º 215, el Comisario General Interino Don Crescenciano Bilbao, entre las numerosas citaciones de Comisarios que durante las operaciones de Teruel han dado ejemplos memorables y fructuosos de sacrificio en el cumplimiento del deber, cita a los Comisarios que indicamos a continuación de nuestras Brigadas Internacionales, muertos en el campo de honor:

Karl ZIMMERMANN, Comisario del Batallón,
Arthur NEUMENN, Comisario de la Artillería anti-tanque.
Sixto ASENSIO, Comisario de Compañía.
Luis ARENAS, Comisario de Compañía.
Vicente LOPEZ, Comisario de Compañía.
Arthur WEIDMANN, Comisario de Compañía.
Francisco GON, Comisario de Compañía.
Rafael ZARAGOZA, Comisario de Compañía.
Gilberto VALOR, Comisario de Compañía.
Segundo ALVAREZ, Comisario de Compañía.
Savador MIÑANA, Comisario de C
Barcelona, 12 de febrero 1938

Todo el mundo debe ver en los combatientes
de las Brigadas Internacionales a los mejores
hijos de España y de todos los países, frater-
nalmente unidos para defender la causa de
la libertad y del progreso.



CALENDAR issued by the commissariat of the International Brigades.